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No. 188

House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MCGOVERN).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
December 5, 2022.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JAMES P. MCGOVERN to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 10, 2022, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m.

CONGRATULATING JUNIATA COLLEGE EAGLES WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL TEAM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to congratulate the Juniata College Eagles women's volleyball team on winning the NCAA Division III national championship.

Playing with such grit, technical skill, and power, these young women were instrumental in creating 34 victories during the season.

Coach Pavlik believed that there are no shortcuts to success. Practice and hard work combined with respect for your opponent are the hallmark of what makes a team great. It was those values and a refusal to quit that allowed this team to come back to defeat Trinity College to win the national championship.

It is the Eagles' third national title, as they become one of just five women's volleyball programs to have won three national championships.

Equally as important as the team's success in volleyball is their success in the academic classroom. Juniata's commitment to academic excellence is a shining example of how student athletes can be supported both on and off the court.

On behalf of all the people of Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, I congratulate Juniata College Eagles and wish them every continued success in the years to come.

SECURE OUR BORDERS

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, it has been reported that a near-record number of migrants are flocking to our southern border as the title 42 remain in Mexico policy is set to expire.

Initial reports show that over 70,000 immigrants evaded apprehension just in the past month, the highest on record, according to preliminary data.

This surge in crossings is bringing a national security and humanitarian crisis to our border, even as the Biden administration refuses to provide additional funding to our Customs and Border Patrol agents.

Without that funding, without the tools, without the training and equipment our Border Patrol needs, our safety and security are at risk.

President Biden has never stepped foot at the southern border, and he has worsened and ignored our historic border crisis at each and every turn.

Now is not the time to end title 42. Now is not the time to leave our ports

of entry vulnerable. And now is not the time to play political games with our national security.

Our borders are at risk, and the sovereignty of our country is maintained only with protecting our borders.

FAIR TREATMENT FOR RAILROAD WORKERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFazio) for 5 minutes.

Mr. DEFazio. Mr. Speaker, this will be a parable to greed and modern predatory capitalism.

We used to have the most efficient, reliable freight network in the world. Freight was delivered safely, at a reasonable rate, and on time. They had a large skilled workforce reasonably compensated, and the railroads were all moderately profitable.

Then came Hunter Harrison, now deceased. He thought there was something wrong with this. He took over CSX. There is something wrong here. He invented precision scheduled railroading, which is anything but. He slashed the workforce and started running trains that were 4 and 5 miles long. They don't have sidings that are that long, so they block intersections all across the country.

He found new ways to gouge the customers with a host of new fees and jacked-up rates and, as a side effect, as the agriculture, energy, and construction customers have all testified to the Surface Transportation Board, delayed deliveries, disrupted businesses, and increased costs, which ultimately get passed on to consumers.

But he accomplished his goal. Profits are up. In the last decade, railroads bought back \$230 billion worth of stock and dividends. In 2021, it was \$26 billion in dividends and buybacks and \$29 billion in profits. The CEOs, like the now-gone Hunter Harrison, are making out like bandits. They all earned \$16 million a year on average or more.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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The Wall Street jackals, well, they are just thrilled with the stock price. Warren Buffet was bragging on making \$6 billion last quarter with BNSF, which has become the most abusive railroad in the system. They used to be the best. They were the star. I don't know what happened.

Last week, we had to legislate here on the floor of the House. 115,000 rail workers had gone 3 years without a contract. The railroads were intransigent. They couldn't afford pay raises. What? Oh, and no paid sick time. Oh, we couldn't do that.

They testified to the Presidential Emergency Board that record profits were not due to "any contributions by labor." I guess the trains run and maintain themselves.

Despite massive layoffs and a 600 percent increase in productivity of the remaining workforce, I guess it is their just fabulous business acumen that is making all this money.

Because they cut the workforce to the bone, they are particularly adamant that there can be no paid sick time—well, no sick time at all, in fact. They are forcing workers to come to work sick and fatigued in an industry where one little mistake will lose you a limb or might cause a catastrophic accident. There is a 60 percent increase in the violations of time by the railroads.

If they gave all the workers 7 days paid leave, it would take 1 cent off of their profits, 1 cent per dollar of those profits.

Last week, the House voted to lock in the tentative agreements that provide historic pay raises and guarantee reimbursement for work expenses, and they prevented a massive disruption. In addition, 221 Members of the House voted to impose 7 days of paid sick leave—with only three Republicans. Pretty pathetic, guys. Pretty pathetic.

Congress took action because we recognized who makes this country great, who makes it run. It is frontline workers. Without them, just under one-third of our country's freight would sit idle.

It is time for the railroads to face the music. Precision scheduled railroading is an abject failure. Your service is atrocious. You treat your workers with no respect. Don't come crying to the Federal Railroad Administration and Congress to bail you out for your inaptitude, greed, and profit taking. If you can't provide your workers with paid sick time because you don't have enough people working, well, then, maybe the CEOs could take a shift in the rail yard to cover them.

It is time for this to end. Unfortunately, it didn't last week because the Senate overrode us.

I thank my staff who worked so hard on this legislation last week: Auke Mahar-Piersma, Andrea Wohleber, Frances Bourne, Katherine Ambrose, Alice Koethe, Jill Harrelson, Kathy Dedrick, and all the other fabulous members of my team.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

RECOGNIZING THE BOONE AND CHURCH BAND

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) for 5 minutes.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize four members of the Boone and Church Band, who recently won the 95th Annual Future Farmers of America (FFA) National Convention Talent Competition in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Jaxton Boone, Ethan Church, Eli Church, and Walker Boone performed before a crowd of 62,000 at the convention and came away with a resounding victory, and they were the only applicants from North Carolina.

What is most impressive, Mr. Speaker, is the backgrounds of these young men. Eli, Ethan, and Jaxton are all current high school students, and Walker is a full-time college student.

Two others associated with the Boone and Church Band deserve recognition: Colton Boone, another recent high school graduate balancing college courses with a full-time job, and Lynn Church, a father who manages the group.

The six-member group has traveled across western North Carolina since 2016 and has performed at church services, fairs, and even festivals.

Mr. Speaker, I had the great fortune of hearing them this weekend at the Avery County Historical Museum, and I saw firsthand how great they are. While they make beautiful music, they also really enjoy themselves as they perform. It was so uplifting to be there to see that.

Their caliber of talent is awe-inspiring, Mr. Speaker. Based on the variety of songs that they perform, they use 10 different instruments, such as a banjo, mandolin, fiddle, and piano, to name a few.

Together, they blend a variety of music styles, including bluegrass and southern gospel. But what is truly magnificent, aside from their wonderful talents, is how these musicians live the truth found within the gospel every single day. The lives they lead and their relationship with God is directly reflected in the music they share with so many people.

Truly, they are a shining example of what makes western North Carolina so great.

Congratulations, again, to the Boone and Church Band on this wonderful accomplishment.

May God continue to bless them and their great work.

SAVE FRANCHISEES

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, the Biden administration's destructive regulatory agenda is jeopardizing the franchise model. President Biden will stop at nothing to advance big labor's agenda, even if it means harming workers. The Biden administration is working overtime to shove as many workers as possible into unions, regardless of worker preference.

The Biden administration's proposed joint employer rule will fundamentally destroy the franchise model by taking autonomy away from individual franchise owners, depriving them of the ability to run their own businesses.

Being able to own a franchise business, like a fast-food restaurant, is a ticket to the American Dream, especially for women and minorities.

Americans who invested their time and energy into building a business do not deserve to have it snatched away all because President Biden wants to appease big labor.

To save the American Dream for these businessowners and promote better opportunities for our entire workforce, Republicans will oppose this dangerous power grab. Instead, we will support policies that put workers and job creators first.

□ 1215

RECOGNIZING OLEH SHTEFANCHUK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Iowa (Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Oleh, or "Odee," Shtefanchuk from Chernivtsi, Ukraine.

Odee is currently a foreign exchange student who is studying at WACO Community High School in Wayland, Iowa.

Growing up, Odee heard of American football, and when he enrolled at WACO Community High School, his friends convinced him to try out for the football team.

Even though Odee is still learning the rules and procedures, he has been instrumental in leading the Warriors in an undefeated season and an appearance in the State title game.

I thank the coaches, the faculty, and the students of WACO Community High School for showing Odee why Iowa is the best place to work, live, play, and raise a family.

I would also acknowledge December 7 as Pearl Harbor Day, a day that we should long remember as it cements to us the importance of our rights under our Constitution.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 16 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CARSON) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

God, our creator, from the beginning of time You have shown mercy to Your people. You have restored the fortunes of those who, time and again, have wasted Your bounty. You have forgiven Your people who over and over, turn their will from Yours. You have set aside Your wrath and spared us, yet again, the full measure of Your anger.

Like children, we sheepishly return to You hoping that You will still show Your love to us. Feeble are our oaths to follow Your will for us, and yet we dare to ask that You save us from our mistakes. O God, our savior, we desperately hope that You will put away Your displeasure and revive us again.

Despite our shortcomings and disingenuous ways, draw us near to You that we may rejoice again in You. Cause us to pause and listen for Your word. Inspire us to recommit ourselves to believe again in Your promises. Be gracious unto us, and give us what is good, that our land, our work, and our lives will yield a harvest befitting Your mercy.

May faithfulness spring forth from the Earth and may Your righteousness go with us and guide our steps.

In your saving name we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1 of rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from New York (Mr. SEMPOLINSKI) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. SEMPOLINSKI led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

CONGRESS MUST PASS THE MOMNIBUS IMMEDIATELY

(Ms. UNDERWOOD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. UNDERWOOD. In October, new data showed how maternal health outcomes worsened during the pandemic. The number of maternal deaths in 2021 was nearly 80 percent higher than in 2018, with Black and Hispanic Americans experiencing the largest increases.

This is a crisis—and the Black Maternal Health Momnibus Act is the solution to that crisis.

The evidence-based investments in the momnibus will comprehensively address the drivers of maternal mortality, morbidity, and disparities.

Recently, 140 Members of Congress signed on to a letter calling for key momnibus provisions to be included in an end-of-year package, and a new poll found that passing the momnibus is the number one legislative priority for voters for the end of the year, with a majority of support from Democrats, Independents, and Republicans.

We must get this done. Congress must pass the momnibus immediately. Moms and families don't have any more time to wait.

ENERGY CRISIS

(Mr. SEMPOLINSKI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SEMPOLINSKI. Mr. Speaker, today I share the concerns of my friends and neighbors in the 23rd District of New York, who have told me about their struggles just to get by due to this administration's reckless and disastrous policies.

President Biden's radical agenda has created an energy crisis that hurts every American. In the last 12 months, over a third of American households have sacrificed basic necessities so they could pay an energy bill. Unfortunately, this will only worsen as the Energy Information Administration projects that families will spend a 25-year high for their energy this winter.

As Americans deal with the burden of higher energy prices and out-of-control inflation, the so-called Inflation Reduction Act added more restrictions on Federal oil and gas leasing.

For the good of the American people and the safety of our Nation, we must act now. Open our domestic oil and gas leases and stop the burdensome regulations that are an assault on U.S. energy development.

I represent one of the most beautiful areas of America, but one that gets very cold in the winter. This is a life-or-death issue for those of limited means in the district I represent.

CONGRATULATING LARRY EVANS

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Larry Evans for his recent selection to the Georgia 40 Under 40 list.

Larry Evans is a successful attorney, who focuses on civil litigation matters for clients ranging in size from small, local businesses all the way to Fortune 500 companies.

While many who pursue a profession as demanding as his are unable to find a balance between work and life, Larry has been able to strike that balance wonderfully. His drive to contribute to

the greater good has led him to serve on the boards of the Savannah Center for the Blind and Low Vision and Junior Achievement of Georgia. Both of these charities are focused, high-impact programs for students in the areas of financial literacy and career readiness. These programs also focus on fostering an entrepreneurial spirit in the youth of the First District of Georgia.

Larry also holds a deep reverence for the outdoors and would rather be outside than nearly anywhere else. He regularly spends time running, hiking, paddling, and connecting with nature.

A true example of someone who works hard and fully commits to everything he does, Larry Evans is someone we can all look up to.

I, on behalf of the entire First District of Georgia, congratulate him for his outstanding service to this State and his selection to the Georgia 40 Under 40 list.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

DATA MAPPING TO SAVE MOMS' LIVES ACT

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 198) to require the Federal Communications Commission to incorporate data on maternal health outcomes into its broadband health maps, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 198

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Data Mapping to Save Moms' Lives Act".

SEC. 2. MAPPING BROADBAND CONNECTIVITY AND MATERNAL HEALTH OUTCOMES.

(a) INCORPORATION OF MATERNAL MORTALITY AND SEVERE MATERNAL MORBIDITY DATA.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Federal Communications Commission shall incorporate publicly available data on maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity, including for not less than 1 year postpartum, into the Mapping Broadband Health in America platform of the Commission.

(b) CONSULTATION WITH CDC.—The Federal Communications Commission shall consult with the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention regarding the maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity data that should be incorporated under subsection (a).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on S. 198.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in strong support of S. 198, the Data Mapping to Save Moms' Lives Act.

The United States has the highest rate of maternal mortality across developed nations. And while maternal mortality and morbidity are problems that affect women throughout the country, these concerns are especially pronounced in Black and Native American communities.

Maternal mortality rates for Black women are three times higher than those of White women, and the rate of death for American Indians and Alaska Native women is two times higher. This is simply unacceptable, and we should be taking action to reverse these disturbing numbers.

Technology, Mr. Speaker, has a role to play but requires modern connectivity like high-speed broadband to provide the most potential. For instance, access to telehealth services like routine checkups, health monitoring, and updated prescriptions can go a long way in ensuring the health and safety of both the mother and child.

This legislation before us today seeks to help lawmakers, public health officials, and the public at large to consider issues of connectivity and maternal health outcomes in tandem. Once implemented, it will provide a better idea for how connectivity and health data intersect. This will help us better target telehealth services to vulnerable populations in communities at risk of maternal mortality and morbidity.

Specifically, Mr. Speaker, it will require the FCC to integrate publicly available data related to maternal health, including mortality and severe morbidity, into its Mapping Broadband Health in America platform. The FCC will be required to consult with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to determine the right data to include for this effort.

We have worked closely with our Senate colleagues to get this legislation enacted, and I want to acknowledge and thank Senators ROSEN and FISCHER for their leadership on the bill. This bipartisan Senate bill incorporates the text of the House-passed version championed by Representatives BUTTERFIELD, BILIRAKIS, and LISA BLUNT ROCHESTER.

This initiative, Mr. Speaker, combined with other good work that we in the executive branch have done, will help us better understand the commu-

nications barriers that some pregnant women face so that we can explore connectivity policies that help keep these women safe and healthy.

Mr. Speaker, for these reasons, I urge my colleagues to support S. 198, the Data Mapping to Save Moms' Lives Act in a bipartisan manner, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of S. 198, the Data Mapping to Save Moms' Lives Act, that mirrors legislation from Representatives BILIRAKIS and BUTTERFIELD. Their legislation passed the House by over 400 votes in April of this year.

Maternal mortality continues to affect moms and children across the United States. The Energy and Commerce Committee has worked in a bipartisan way to address this preventable issue, but unfortunately, challenges remain.

This legislation will build on existing tools of the Federal Communications Commission by incorporating publicly available data on maternal health outcomes into its Mapping Broadband Health in America tool. The FCC would be required to work with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to determine what maternal health outcomes to include.

I encourage all of my colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER).

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the bill, S. 198, the Data Mapping to Save Moms' Lives Act.

Earlier this year, the House passed H.R. 1218, which was introduced by Representatives BUTTERFIELD and BILIRAKIS. This legislation was the result of bipartisan work through hearings and markups in the Energy and Commerce Committee. I am pleased to see that Republican efforts at changes to improve the legislation are included in the bill before us.

Today's legislation amends the Senate bill to include the House-passed language, which I was pleased to support earlier this year. The Data Mapping to Save Moms' Lives Act follows other bipartisan work the Energy and Commerce Committee has done to address maternal mortality in America.

I am pleased to support this legislation, and I urge my colleagues to do so, as well.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I, once again, urge that we support this bill on

a bipartisan basis, and I urge all my colleagues to support it.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 198, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

□ 1430

SBA CYBER AWARENESS ACT

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 3462) to require an annual report on the cybersecurity of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the Senate amendment is as follows:

Senate amendment:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "SBA Cyber Awareness Act".

SEC. 2. CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS REPORTING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 10 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 639) is amended by inserting after subsection (a) the following:

"(b) CYBERSECURITY REPORTS.—

"(1) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this subsection, and every year thereafter, the Administrator shall submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees that includes—

"(A) a strategy to increase the cybersecurity of information technology infrastructure of the Administration;

"(B) a supply chain risk management strategy and an implementation plan to address the risks of foreign manufactured information technology equipment utilized by the Administration, including specific risk mitigation activities for components originating from entities with principal places of business located in the People's Republic of China; and

"(C) an account of—

"(i) any incident that occurred at the Administration during the 2-year period preceding the date on which the first report is submitted, and, for subsequent reports, the 1-year period preceding the date of submission; and

"(ii) any action taken by the Administrator to respond to or remediate any such incident.

"(2) FISMA REPORTS.—Each report required under paragraph (1) may be submitted as part of the report required under section 3554 of title 44, United States Code.

"(3) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to affect the reporting requirements of the Administrator under chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, in particular the requirement to notify the Federal information security incident center under section 3554(b)(7)(C)(ii) of such title, any guidance

issued by the Office of Management and Budget, or any other provision of law or Federal policy.

“(4) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

“(A) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ‘appropriate congressional committees’ means—

“(i) the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate;

“(ii) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

“(iii) the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives; and

“(iv) the Committee on Oversight and Reform of the House of Representatives.

“(B) INCIDENT.—The term ‘incident’ has the meaning given the term in section 3552 of title 44, United States Code.

“(C) INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY.—The term ‘information technology’ has the meaning given the term in section 3502 of title 44, United States Code.”

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall, to the greatest extent practicable, provide to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate, the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Oversight and Reform of the House of Representatives a detailed account of information technology (as defined in section 3502 of title 44, United States Code) of the Small Business Administration that was manufactured by an entity that has its principal place of business located in the People's Republic of China.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. LUETKEMEYER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I thank all the members of the Small Business Committee for their hard work this Congress on behalf of our Nation's 32 million small business owners.

These bills will help small firms in a number of areas: strengthen cybersecurity and broadband access, improve exporting, and enhance recovery assistance from natural disasters.

They are the product of the bipartisan and bicameral work of the House and Senate Small Business Committees. I hope that we can come together today and approve these bills.

First, we will consider H.R. 3462, the SBA Cyber Awareness Act, as amended and passed by the Senate. For more than 20 years, the SBA's IG has listed IT security as one of the most serious management and performance challenges for SBA. These vulnerabilities were exposed during the rollout of the SBA COVID-19 relief programs.

The unprecedented demand for programs like PPP and the COVID EIDL overwhelmed the SBA's legacy system, leading to back-end crashes, slow portal operations, and a breach that exposed applicants' personal information. SBA failed to make any public announcement about the data breach, and it took weeks for the agency to send paper notifications to affected individuals.

H.R. 3462 would require the SBA to assess its cybersecurity procedures and submit a cybersecurity report to Congress within 180 days of passage and annually thereafter.

SBA possesses sensitive information belonging to countless American small business owners. We must ensure this data is protected from bad actors in cyberspace.

The Senate-passed version we are voting on today reinforces reporting requirements established by the Federal Information Security Management Act of 2002.

I support the changes and thank the Senate for improving this legislation. I thank Mr. CROW of Colorado and Mrs. KIM of California for introducing and championing this bill. Their relentless efforts on this issue is why we are here today.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3462, as amended by the Senate, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume and rise in support of H.R. 3462, the SBA Cyber Awareness Act, as amended by the Senate.

Cyberattacks are too common in today's world. They cost the U.S. economy billions of dollars each year and have the ability to harm and shut down small businesses, which often operate on the thinnest of margins.

Any cyber intrusion on a small business creates great pain and uncertainty. H.R. 3462 takes important steps to enhance and support our small businesses and the Federal Government from bad actors.

This bill strengthens cybersecurity operations at the Small Business Administration by requiring the agency to issue a report to Congress that assesses its ability to respond to cyber threats.

Additionally, H.R. 3462 requires the SBA to assess its own cybersecurity framework and report on any incidents in a timely fashion.

H.R. 3462 passed the House last year with a vote of 423-0, Mr. Speaker, and was recently approved by the Senate with an amendment to strengthen reporting requirements by focusing on supply chain and foreign technology risk.

I thank the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. CROW), the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. KIM), and the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. FLOOD) for working together to protect small businesses, as well as our Senate colleagues who worked on this bill. I also thank the chair for pushing this bill forward.

I urge my colleagues to support the Senate amendment to H.R. 3462, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. CROW).

Mr. CROW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3462, the bipartisan SBA Cyber Awareness Act.

The Small Business Administration supports small businesses in every corner of the country. With the support of Congress, the SBA has gone to bat for small businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic through relief programs like PPP and EIDL. Yet, year after year, the SBA's Office of Inspector General has found that IT security is one of the agency's most serious management and performance challenges.

The pandemic highlighted the gaps in the agency's cybersecurity. As a result of high demand, a glitch in the EIDL application exposed the personal information of over 8,000 applicants.

We need to bolster the SBA's cybersecurity so that the SBA can better protect small businesses' information and continue to help small businesses nationwide.

My bill, the SBA Cyber Awareness Act, would direct the SBA to issue an annual report on the agency's cybersecurity strategy, as well as disclosure of recent threats and breaches. Under this bill, the SBA would also report on its supply chain risk management strategy and issue a plan to address the risks of foreign manufactured information technology used by the agency, including components originating from the People's Republic of China.

This bill passed the Senate by unanimous consent, and a similar version passed the House of Representatives unopposed last year in November 2021.

I thank the bill's Republican co-lead, Representative YOUNG KIM, for her support, as well as Chairwoman VELÁZQUEZ, Ranking Member LUETKEMEYER, and the staff of the Small Business Committee, all of whom have been critical in advancing this measure.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me again in supporting this commonsense bill to support SBA cybersecurity.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, the threat of a cyberattack on a small business is constant. A cyber intrusion, no matter the magnitude, could have devastating and consequential impacts for the Nation's smallest businesses.

We must ensure the agency charged with helping the Nation's over 33 million small businesses is prepared. H.R. 3462 and the Senate's corresponding amendment do just that.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support the legislation before us today that will better protect the Federal Government and America's small businesses from cyberattack, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, the average cost of a data breach in the United States is over \$9 million. For small businesses operating on razor-thin margins, an event like this can be catastrophic.

Small businesses must be confident that SBA systems are fully operational and capable of protecting their sensitive data. H.R. 3462 will go a long way toward rebuilding trust in the agency's IT infrastructure.

I thank my colleagues, Mr. CROW of Colorado and Mrs. KIM of California, for their leadership on this issue.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to concur with the Senate amendment to the bill, H.R. 3462, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill, H.R. 3462.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

STEP IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2022

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 8844) to reauthorize the State Trade Expansion Program of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 8844

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "STEP Improvement Act of 2022".

SEC. 2. STATE TRADE EXPANSION PROGRAM.

(a) APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS.—Section 22(1)(3) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 649(1)(3)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (D)—

(A) in clause (i), by inserting ", including a budget plan for use of funds awarded under this subsection" before the period at the end; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new clause:

"(iii) TIMING.—The Associate Administrator shall—

"(I) publish information on how to apply for a grant under this subsection, including specific calculations and other determinations used to award such a grant, not later than March 31 of each year;

"(II) establish a deadline for the submission of applications that is not earlier than 60 days after the date on which the information is published under subclause (I) and that is not later than May 31; and

"(III) announce grant recipients not later than August 31 of each year."; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subparagraphs:

"(E) APPLICATION INFORMATION.—The Associate Administrator shall clearly commu-

nicate to applicants and grant recipients any information about State Trade Expansion Program, including—

"(i) for each unsuccessful applicant for a grant awarded under this subsection, recommendations to improve a subsequent application for such a grant; and

"(ii) for each successful applicant for such a grant, an explanation for the amount awarded, if different from the amount requested in the application.

"(F) BUDGET PLAN REVISIONS.—

"(i) IN GENERAL.—A State receiving a grant under this subsection may revise the budget plan of the State submitted under subparagraph (D) after the disbursement of grant funds if—

"(I) the revision complies with allowable uses of grant funds under this subsection; and

"(II) such State submits notification of the revision to the Associate Administrator.

"(ii) EXCEPTION.—If a revision under clause (i) reallocates 10 percent or more of the amounts described in the budget plan of the State submitted under subparagraph (D), the State may not implement the revised budget plan without the approval of the Associate Administrator, unless the Associate Administrator fails to approve or deny the revised plan within 20 days after receipt of such revised plan."

(b) SURVEY.—Section 22(1) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 649(1)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (7) through (9) as paragraphs (8) through (10), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (6) the following new paragraph:

"(7) SURVEY.—The Associate Administrator shall conduct an annual survey of each State that received a grant under this subsection during the preceding year to solicit feedback on the program and develop best practices for grantees."

(c) ANNUAL REPORT.—Section 22(1)(8)(B) of the Small Business Act, as redesignated by subsection (b), is amended—

(1) in clause (i)—

(A) in subclause (III), by inserting ", including the total number of eligible small business concerns assisted by the program (disaggregated by socially and economically disadvantaged small business concerns, small business concerns owned and controlled by women, and rural small business concerns)" before the semicolon at the end;

(B) in subclause (IV), by striking "and" at the end;

(C) in subclause (V)—

(i) by striking "description of best practices" and inserting "detailed description of best practices"; and

(ii) by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(D) by adding at the end the following new subclauses:

"(VI) an analysis of the performance metrics described in clause (iii), including a determination of whether or not any goals relating to such performance metrics were met, and an analysis of the survey described in paragraph (7); and

"(VII) a description of lessons learned by grant recipients under this subsection that may apply to other assistance provided by the Administration."; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new clause:

"(iii) PERFORMANCE METRICS.—Annually, the Associate Administrator shall collect data on eligible small business concerns assisted by the program for the following performance metrics:

"(I) Total number of such concerns, disaggregated by socially and economically disadvantaged small business concerns, small business concerns owned and con-

trolled by women, and rural small business concerns.

"(II) Total dollar amount of export sales by eligible small business concerns assisted by the program.

"(III) Number of such concerns that have not previously participated in an activity described in paragraph (2).

"(IV) Number of such concerns that, because of participation in the program, have accessed a new market.

"(V) Number of such concerns that, because of participation in the program, have created new jobs.

"(VI) Number of such concerns participating in foreign trade missions or trade show exhibitions, disaggregated by socially and economically disadvantaged small business concerns, small business concerns owned and controlled by women, and rural small business concerns."

(d) EXPANSION OF DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN.—Section 22(1)(1)(A) of the Small Business Act is amended—

(1) in clause (iii)(II), by adding "and" at the end;

(2) by striking clause (iv); and

(3) by redesignating clause (v) as clause (iv).

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 22(1)(10) of the Small Business Act, as redesignated by subsection (b), is amended by striking "fiscal years 2016 through 2020" and inserting "fiscal years 2023 through 2026".

(f) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Associate Administrator for International Trade of the Small Business Administration shall submit to Congress a report on the State Trade Expansion Program established under section 22(1) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 649(1)) that includes a description of—

(1) the process developed for review of revised budget plans submitted under section 22(1)(3)(F) of the Small Business Act, as added by this Act;

(2) any changes made to streamline the application process to remove duplicative requirements and create a more transparent process;

(3) the process developed to share best practices by States described in section 22(1)(8)(B)(i)(V) (as redesignated by this Act), particularly for first-time grant recipients under the State Trade Expansion Program or grant recipients that are facing problems using grant funds; and

(4) the process developed to communicate, both verbally and in writing, relevant information about the State Trade Expansion Program to all grant recipients in a timely manner.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. LUETKEMEYER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

□ 1445

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 8844, the STEP Improvement Act of 2022.

This bill reauthorizes the SBA's State Trade Expansion Program, or STEP, as we call it. This program is a proven and effective program that gives small businesses the tools they need to enter and thrive in the global marketplace.

Since its inception in 2010, STEP has helped firms access new markets and support \$832 million in export sales in fiscal year 2021 alone.

The program offers grants to all 50 States, U.S. territories, and D.C. This financial assistance aids export-related activities such as developing e-commerce capabilities, participating in export trade shows and foreign trade missions, creating international marketing materials and website globalization.

Our committee held two hearings on STEP this Congress where we heard that demand for the program continues to increase across the country, and improvements could be made to streamline the program.

To that end, the STEP Improvement Act of 2022 authorizes \$30 million per year through fiscal year 2026, and mandates a standardized application process, increases grant spending flexibility, improves communication between the SBA and States, and enhances reporting requirements.

The legislation allows businesses less than 1 year old to participate in the program, which would allow STEP to provide services to the most innovative small businesses that are exporting faster than ever before.

The legislation has the strong support of the State International Development Organizations. I thank the bill's sponsors, Mr. EVANS, Mrs. KIM of California, Ms. NEWMAN, and Mr. FLOOD for their continued bipartisan work to improve STEP.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 8844, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 8844, the STEP Improvement Act.

Small businesses are the drivers of innovation, leaders in job creation, and beacons of American ingenuity across the globe.

The State Trade Expansion Program, or STEP, is a valuable tool for small businesses looking to export and expand into global markets. This program has made a real impact on small business owners who have used the program to internationalize their websites and create relationships on foreign market sales trips.

In my district, this program has helped a veteran-owned business expand into 10 countries in Southeast

Asia and helped a consulting company transition from zero percent to 75 percent international sales.

The legislation will ensure small businesses can continue to benefit from STEP by reauthorizing the program through 2026. Additionally, H.R. 8844 will improve the program by creating a standardized application process.

Further, the legislation requires the SBA to report best practices, lessons learned, and the program's performance metrics.

I applaud Representatives KIM, FLOOD, EVANS, and NEWMAN for their bipartisan work on this legislation.

I also thank the chair for holding multiple hearings on the topic and for moving this legislation forward.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. EVANS), the author of the bill.

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of my bill, the State Trade Expansion Program Improvement Act.

This bill would reauthorize STEP for 4 more years and improve it in several ways, including creating a standardized application process and collecting performance metrics.

As a member of both the Small Business Committee and the Ways and Means Committee, I see trade as a tool in the economic toolbox to help small businesses expand and grow.

Since 2011, STEP has been assisting small businesses with export development through the use of grants and introduction into the international marketplace.

Trade helps to create and support jobs, which is good for the economy, community, and families in Pennsylvania. Over 1.5 million jobs were supported by international trade in 2019, which accounted for 20 percent of all jobs in the State.

Further, in 2020, nearly 15,000 companies exported goods from Pennsylvania of which 88 percent were small-and medium-sized enterprises.

Coming from the city of Philadelphia, where nearly half of the population is African American, I am especially interested in finding ways to improve minority entrepreneurship.

Many minority businesses and small businesses have a competitive advantage in conducting international business due to their cultural connections. It is important, and I thank the chair for showing the leadership to at least have this discussion.

STEP has helped minority entrepreneurs gain access to the international marketplace, which allows their businesses to grow and thrive.

I was excited to see that STEP awarded my home State of Pennsylvania a \$400,000 grant in 2022. This will go a long way to supporting small businesses across the State.

STEP needs to be reauthorized and improved. I am asking my colleagues

to support it. I thank the chairperson and my colleagues on the other side for making this a bipartisan effort and a collective interest.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. FLOOD), one of our newest members on the committee, but he is a staunch supporter and has worked tirelessly for the small businesses in his community as well as those around the country.

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to co-lead H.R. 8844 with my colleagues, Congressman EVANS, Congresswoman NEWMAN, and Congresswoman KIM.

I also thank Chairwoman VELÁZQUEZ and Ranking Member LUETKEMEYER for their support on this bill.

It is good to see Republicans and Democrats working in a bipartisan fashion on the Small Business Committee. When we can come to an agreement, the American people benefit.

H.R. 8844 would reauthorize the State Trade Expansion Program for 4 fiscal years. STEP provides financial awards to States to assist small businesses with export development.

To demonstrate the importance of this program, I would like to highlight an example of a business that has benefited from the STEP program in my district.

Paracclipse Systems, LLC, based in Columbus, Nebraska, manufacturers—of all things—nonintrusive fly—as in the insect—control products that you can install in your home.

With a \$10,000 investment, Paracclipse was able to expand its sales and create 14 jobs.

STEP leverages Federal resources to ensure small businesses across the country can compete in the global marketplace.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to be a co-lead of this legislation, and I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, in a growing global economy, we must empower our small businesses to compete on the world stage.

This legislation will ensure that entrepreneurs have ample opportunities to engage in international trade.

H.R. 8844 also ensures accountability, which is very important, requiring an analysis of the performance metrics of the program to ensure that it is effectively and efficiently supporting small businesses.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support H.R. 8844, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, small businesses are truly the bedrock of the American economy, and exporting is one sure way for them to expand their profits at home and their presence overseas.

H.R. 8844 will go a long way in ensuring small employers and entrepreneurs

at any stage in their business journey can grow and open the doors to the global marketplace.

By reauthorizing STEP, this legislation ensures that States and their small businesses will face fewer hurdles to participation and greater opportunities.

Once again, I commend my colleagues, Representatives EVANS, KIM, and FLOOD for their hard work on this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote “yes,” and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion by the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 8844.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

SMALL BUSINESS CYBER TRAINING ACT OF 2022

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 1687) to amend section 21 of the Small Business Act to require cyber certification for small business development center counselors, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 1687

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Small Business Cyber Training Act of 2022”.

SEC. 2. DUTIES OF SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER COUNSELORS.

(a) CYBER TRAINING.—Section 21 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(c) CYBER STRATEGY TRAINING FOR SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS.—

“(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection—

“(A) the term ‘cyber strategy’ means resources and tactics to assist in planning for cybersecurity and defending against cyber risks and attacks; and

“(B) the term ‘lead small business development center’ means a small business development center that receives reimbursement from the Administrator under paragraph (5).

“(2) CERTIFICATION PROGRAM.—The Administrator shall establish a cyber counseling certification program, or designate 1 or more substantially similar governmental or private cybersecurity certification programs, to certify the employees of lead small business development centers in providing cyber planning assistance to small business concerns.

“(3) NUMBER OF CERTIFIED EMPLOYEES.—The Administrator shall ensure that the number of employees of each lead small business development center who are certified in providing cyber planning assistance is not less than the lesser of—

“(A) 5; or

“(B) 10 percent of the total number of employees of the lead small business development center.

“(4) CYBER STRATEGY.—In carrying out paragraph (2), the Administrator, to the extent practicable, shall consider any cyber strategy methods included in the Small Business Development Center Cyber Strategy developed under section 1841(a)(3)(B) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-328; 130 Stat. 2662).

“(5) REIMBURSEMENT FOR CERTIFICATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of appropriations, the Administrator may reimburse each lead small business development center for costs relating to the certification of 1 or more employees of the lead small business center in providing cyber planning assistance under a program established or designated under paragraph (2).

“(B) LIMITATION.—The total amount reimbursed by the Administrator under subparagraph (A) may not exceed \$350,000 in any fiscal year.”.

(b) IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall implement paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) of section 21(c) of the Small Business Act, as added by subsection (a).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. LUETKEMEYER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the bill before us today, S. 1687, the Small Business Cyber Training Act of 2022.

The House passed its companion bill, H.R. 4515, the Small Business Development Center Cyber Training Act on November 2, 2021.

S. 1687, would establish a cyber counseling certification program for lead SBDC staff to provide specific, free-of-charge cyber training for small businesses.

As more businesses utilize the internet for social media advertising, payment systems, and global markets, more of them become vulnerable to cyberattacks. The cyber disruptions can destroy IT systems and derail operations, sometimes forcing the business to shut down.

Cyberattack damage is not just limited to the IT systems; it can also erode customers' trust and tarnish a business' reputation.

With that said, a recent SBA survey found that 88 percent of small business owners felt their business was vulnerable to a cyberattack, but reported

that they couldn't afford professional IT solutions, have limited time to devote to cybersecurity, or just do not know where to begin.

Given the greater risk cyberattacks pose to small businesses and their limited capacity to protect against them, we must find ways to help entrepreneurs strengthen their cybersecurity posture. The SBA and SBDCs are ready, willing, and able to fill these gaps.

Under this legislation, lead SBDCs would be required to provide cyber training and resources and facilitate cybersecurity investments that are typically too expensive for small businesses.

S. 1687 makes minor technical changes to the House passed bill and were agreed upon by all stakeholders. I thank our House leaders, Mr. GARBARINO, Mr. EVANS, Ms. HOULAHAN, and Mr. CHABOT, who have been true advocates on this issue. I applaud their commitment to helping small business owners protect their livelihood from destructive cyberattacks.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, as amended, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the House Amendment to S. 1687, the Small Business Cyber Training Act of 2022.

All businesses, regardless of size or available resources, are susceptible to cyber threats. If large businesses can become victims of cybercrimes, small businesses are even more vulnerable.

This bipartisan legislation directs Small Business Development Centers, SBDCs, to provide training to thwart potential attacks and educate small businesses on the most up-to-date cybersecurity practices. With over 1,000 local centers nationwide, SBDCs are well-positioned to assist small businesses with their cybersecurity needs.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman GARBARINO for his leadership on this issue and commitment to enhancing Missouri's economic competitiveness and cyber resiliency.

I also thank my counterparts in the Senate for their work on this legislation.

S. 1687 passed the Senate in September, and I urge my colleagues to support the bill we have before us today that does not include unneeded reimbursement provisions included in the final form.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1500

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

S. 1687, as amended, takes important steps to prepare small businesses to combat cybersecurity threats.

This bipartisan bill to expand services at Small Business Development

Centers will ensure small businesses have the resources necessary to create a cybersecurity plan and detect cyber risks.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

The use of digital tools dramatically increased during the pandemic, even here in Congress; and the massive shift to remote work has resulted in a significant rise in cybersecurity threats and attacks.

Guarding against cyberattacks often comes with significant costs and a substantial investment of time and resources. Unfortunately, small businesses operating on thin margins have fewer resources to dedicate to cybersecurity.

S. 1687 ensures that the Nation's 62 lead SBDCs are fully equipped to assist small businesses with their cybersecurity needs at no cost. The bill would eliminate the primary obstacle of investment costs and make cybersecurity mitigation easier to adopt.

This bill is a commonsense solution to complex problems. I urge my colleagues to support S. 1687, the Small Business Cyber Training Act of 2022, as amended.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BEYER). The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 1687, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

DISASTER ASSISTANCE FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES ACT

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 1617) to modify the requirements for the Administrator of the Small Business Administration relating to declaring a disaster in a rural area, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 1617

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Disaster Assistance for Rural Communities Act".

SEC. 2. DISASTER DECLARATION IN RURAL AREAS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(b)) is amended by inserting after paragraph (15) the following:

"(16) DISASTER DECLARATION IN RURAL AREAS.—

"(A) DEFINITIONS.—In this paragraph—

"(i) the term 'rural area' means any county or other political subdivision of a State, the District of Columbia, or a territory or possession of the United States that is designated as a rural area by the Bureau of the Census; and

"(ii) the term 'significant damage' means, with respect to property, uninsured losses of not less than 40 percent of the estimated fair replacement value or pre-disaster fair market value of the damaged property, whichever is lower.

"(B) DISASTER DECLARATION.—For the purpose of making loans under paragraph (1) or (2), the Administrator may declare a disaster in a rural area for which a major disaster was declared by the President under section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170) and for which individual assistance was not authorized under section 408 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 5174) if—

"(i) the Governor of the State or the Chief Executive of the Indian tribal government in which the rural area is located requests such a declaration; and

"(ii) any home, small business concern, private nonprofit organization, or small agricultural cooperative has incurred significant damage in the rural area.

"(C) SBA REPORT.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this paragraph, and every year thereafter, the Administrator shall submit to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives a report on, with respect to the 1-year period preceding submission of the report—

"(i) any economic injury that resulted from a major disaster declared by the President under section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170) in a rural area;

"(ii) each request for assistance made by the Governor of a State or the Chief Executive of an Indian tribal government under subparagraph (B)(i) and the response of the Administrator, including the timeline for each response; and

"(iii) any regulatory changes that will impact the ability of communities in rural areas to obtain disaster assistance under this subsection."

(b) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall issue regulations to carry out the amendment made by subsection (a).

(c) GAO REPORT.—

(1) DEFINITION OF RURAL AREA.—In this subsection, the term "rural area" means any county or other political subdivision of a State, the District of Columbia, or a territory or possession of the United States that is designated as a rural area by the Bureau of the Census.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives a report on—

(A) any unique challenges that communities in rural areas face compared to communities in urbanized areas when seeking to obtain disaster assistance under section 7(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(b)); and

(B) legislative recommendations for improving access to disaster assistance for communities in rural areas.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from

New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. LUETKEMEYER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 1617, the Disaster Assistance for Rural Communities Act. This bill will close a loophole in the Small Business Administration's disaster lending program, which disproportionately impacts homeowners and businesses located in remote rural areas.

Although people assume SBA only provides assistance to small businesses after a declared disaster, the opposite is true. In fact, according to CRS, approximately 80 percent of SBA disaster loans were awarded to individuals and households rather than businesses.

SBA's disaster lending program has been an important tool that helps not only businessowners, but also homeowners and renters rebuild after disasters and emergencies.

Under the current law, when the President declares a disaster under the Stafford Act, but does not authorize individual assistance, the SBA must declare a disaster for an individual to apply for a loan.

Yet, for SBA to declare a disaster, a minimum amount of physical damage must be sustained by a certain number of homes and businesses in a county or smaller political subdivision. This policy hurts remote rural areas because SBA cannot declare a disaster if a minimum number of homes or businesses aren't damaged or destroyed.

This outdated policy is hurting some of our most vulnerable citizens. We must close this loophole, especially as major disasters become more prevalent and destructive due to climate change.

In 2021, the United States experienced 20 separate billion-dollar weather and climate disasters, which caused \$145 billion in damage.

This bill addresses this issue by allowing SBA to declare a disaster in any rural area in which a major disaster has been declared by the President but individual assistance hasn't been authorized under the Stafford Act. It is critical that SBA disaster lending programs be available to all individuals, no matter where they reside or where they operate their business.

I thank Senators RISCH, SHAHEEN, HASSAN, KENNEDY, and BRAUN for their leadership on this important measure. I also thank Mr. GOLDEN, who introduced a companion bill on the House side.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to vote "yes," and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 1617, the Disaster Assistance for Rural Communities Act.

Whether it is a hurricane, tornado, fire, or flood, we are all too familiar with a natural disaster's devastating impact on our communities and constituents. Following a disaster, the SBA provides valuable services and loans to businesses and homes affected.

Due to the rural areas being sparsely populated, they are often outliers when it comes to disaster assistance. This important legislation corrects this unintended consequence by creating a rural category for SBA-declared disasters.

Additionally, the legislation requires the Government Accountability Office, GAO, to report on how rural areas are specifically impacted by disasters, and the legislation requires the SBA to annually report on all rural disaster declarations.

Small businesses are the lifeblood of the economy in rural communities, and we must ensure that they have the ability to receive SBA assistance when a disaster strikes.

I thank my Senate colleagues for their support for rural communities and their work on this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, S. 1617 will provide rural areas with enhanced eligibility for SBA-disaster-declared loans. This bipartisan bill takes an important step to aid rural communities and small businesses when a disaster strikes.

Mr. Speaker, S. 1617 passed the Senate in September, and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

This legislation to update SBA's policy to provide assistance to homeowners and businesses in remote rural areas is long overdue. Individuals affected by natural disasters need SBA assistance now more than ever, particularly with the threat of major disasters due to climate change.

A business' location shouldn't determine their eligibility for aid in the wake of a natural disaster. Simply put, it is not fair for SBA loans to be available for individuals impacted by a tornado or flood in an urban area, but not a remote rural area just because the number of properties damaged by the disaster didn't meet an arbitrary threshold.

The SBA's disaster lending program has been an essential tool helping people get back on their feet after a disaster and the program should be available to help as many people as possible.

I thank Ranking Member LUETKEMEYER for working with me to get this bill passed today.

In the 117th Congress, Representative LUETKEMEYER joined the committee as

the ranking member, and while we may not have always seen eye to eye, we were able to set aside our differences to bring more than 20 bipartisan bills to the floor, including legislation to extend the statute of limitations for fraud cases involving PPP and COVID EIDL.

The spirit of bipartisanship has always been central to the day-to-day operations of the committee. I look forward to continuing this tradition. American small businesses deserve nothing less.

I once again thank the members of the committee and their staff who have worked tirelessly through this Congress to aid small business owners and entrepreneurs throughout the country. I am incredibly proud of all the work our committee has done to support small businesses when they needed it the most.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on S. 1617, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 1617.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Byrd, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed with an amendment in which the concurrence of the House is requested, a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 1193. An act to amend title VI of the Public Health Service Act to direct the Director of the National Institutes of Health, in consultation with the Director of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, to establish a program under which the Director of the National Institutes of Health shall support or conduct research on valvular heart disease and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 4052. An act to reauthorize a program for early detection, diagnosis, and treated regarding deaf and hard-of-hearing newborns, infants, and young children, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate agrees to the amendment of the House of Representatives to the bill (S. 3662) entitled "An Act to temporarily increase the cost share authority for aqueous film forming foam input-based testing equipment, and for other purposes."

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 110-315, the

Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, announced that appointment of the following individuals to be members of the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity:

Dr. Zakiya Smith Ellis of Georgia.

Debbie Cochran of California.

Dr. Jose Luis Cruz Rivera of Arizona.

COMMUNITY DISASTER RESILIENCE ZONES ACT OF 2022

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 3875) to require the President to develop and maintain products that show the risk of natural hazards across the United States, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 3875

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Community Disaster Resilience Zones Act of 2022".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Section 101(b) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (5), by striking "and" at the end;

(2) in paragraph (6), by adding "; and" at the end; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(7) identifying and improving the climate and natural hazard resilience of vulnerable communities."

SEC. 3. NATURAL HAZARD RISK ASSESSMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title II of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5131 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"SEC. 206. NATURAL HAZARD RISK ASSESSMENT.

"(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

"(1) COMMUNITY DISASTER RESILIENCE ZONE.—The term 'community disaster resilience zone' means a census tract designated by the President under subsection (d)(1).

"(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term 'eligible entity' means—

"(A) a State;

"(B) an Indian tribal government; or

"(C) a local government.

"(b) PRODUCTS.—The President shall continue to maintain a natural hazard assessment program that develops and maintains products that—

"(1) are available to the public; and

"(2) define natural hazard risk across the United States.

"(c) FEATURES.—The products maintained under subsection (b) shall, for lands within States and areas under the jurisdiction of Indian tribal governments—

"(1) show the risk of natural hazards; and

"(2) include ratings and data for—

"(A) loss exposure, including population equivalence, buildings, and agriculture;

"(B) social vulnerability;

"(C) community resilience; and

"(D) any other element determined by the President.

"(d) COMMUNITY DISASTER RESILIENCE ZONES DESIGNATION.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the date on which the President makes the update and enhancement required under subsection (e)(4), and not less frequently than every 5 years thereafter, the President shall identify and designate community disaster resilience zones, which shall be—

"(A) the 50 census tracts assigned the highest individual hazard risk ratings; and

“(B) subject to paragraph (3), in each State, not less than 1 percent of census tracts that are assigned high individual risk ratings.

“(2) RISK RATINGS.—In carrying out paragraph (1), the President shall use census tract risk ratings derived from a product maintained under subsection (b) that—

“(A) reflect—

“(i) high levels of individual hazard risk ratings based on an assessment of the inter-section of—

“(I) loss to population equivalence;

“(II) building value; and

“(III) agriculture value;

“(ii) high social vulnerability ratings and low community resilience ratings; and

“(iii) any other elements determined by the President; and

“(B) reflect the principal natural hazard risks identified for the respective census tracts.

“(3) GEOGRAPHIC BALANCE.—In identifying and designating the community disaster resilience zones described in paragraph (1)(B)—

“(A) for the purpose of achieving geographic balance, when applicable, the President shall consider making designations in coastal, inland, urban, suburban, and rural areas; and

“(B) the President shall include census tracts on Tribal lands located within a State.

“(4) DURATION.—The designation of a community disaster resilience zone under paragraph (1) shall be effective for a period of not less than 5 years.

“(e) REVIEW AND UPDATE.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of the Community Disaster Resilience Zones Act of 2022, and not less frequently than every 5 years thereafter, the President shall—

“(1) with respect to any product that is a natural hazard risk assessment—

“(A) review the underlying methodology of the product; and

“(B) receive public input on the methodology and data used for the product;

“(2) consider including additional data in any product that is a natural hazard risk assessment, such as—

“(A) the most recent census tract data;

“(B) data from the American Community Survey of the Bureau of the Census, a successor survey, a similar survey, or another data source, including data by census tract on housing characteristics and income;

“(C) information relating to development, improvements, and hazard mitigation measures;

“(D) data that assesses past and future loss exposure, including analysis on the effects of a changing climate on future loss exposure;

“(E) data from the Resilience Analysis and Planning Tool of the Federal Emergency Management Agency; and

“(F) other information relevant to prioritizing areas that have—

“(i) high risk levels of—

“(I) natural hazard loss exposure, including population equivalence, buildings, infrastructure, and agriculture; and

“(II) social vulnerability; and

“(ii) low levels of community resilience;

“(3) make publicly available any changes in methodology or data used to inform an update to a product maintained under subsection (b); and

“(4) update and enhance the products maintained under subsection (b), as necessary.

“(f) NATURAL HAZARD RISK ASSESSMENT INSIGHTS.—In determining additional data to include in products that are natural hazard risk assessments under subsection (e)(2), the President shall consult with, at a minimum—

“(1) the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency;

“(2) the Secretary of Agriculture and the Chief of the Forest Service;

“(3) the Secretary of Commerce, the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Director of the Bureau of the Census, and the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology;

“(4) the Secretary of Defense and the Commanding Officer of the United States Army Corps of Engineers;

“(5) the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency;

“(6) the Secretary of the Interior and the Director of the United States Geological Survey;

“(7) the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development; and

“(8) the Director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency.

“(g) COMMUNITY DISASTER RESILIENCE ZONE.—With respect to financial assistance provided under section 203(i) to perform a resilience or mitigation project within, or that primarily benefits, a community disaster resilience zone, the President may increase the amount of the Federal share described under section 203(h) to not more than 90 percent of the total cost of the resilience or mitigation project.

“(h) RESILIENCE OR MITIGATION PROJECT PLANNING ASSISTANCE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The President may provide financial, technical, or other assistance under this title to an eligible entity that plans to perform a resilience or mitigation project within, or that primarily benefits, a community disaster resilience zone.

“(2) PURPOSE.—The purpose of assistance provided under paragraph (1) shall be to carry out activities in preparation for a resilience or mitigation project or seek an evaluation and certification under subsection (i)(2) for a resilience or mitigation project before the date on which permanent work of the resilience or mitigation project begins.

“(3) APPLICATION.—If required by the President, an eligible entity seeking assistance under paragraph (1) shall submit an application in accordance with subsection (i)(1).

“(4) FUNDING.—In providing assistance under paragraph (1), the President may use amounts set aside under section 203(i).

“(i) COMMUNITY DISASTER RESILIENCE ZONE PROJECT APPLICATIONS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—If required by the President or other Federal law, an eligible entity shall submit to the President an application at such time, in such manner, and containing or accompanied by such information as the President may reasonably require.

“(2) EVALUATION AND CERTIFICATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the date on which an eligible entity submits an application under paragraph (1), the President shall evaluate the application to determine whether the resilience or mitigation project that the entity plans to perform within, or that primarily benefits, a community disaster resilience zone—

“(i) is designed to reduce injuries, loss of life, and damage and destruction of property, such as damage to critical services and facilities; and

“(ii) substantially reduces the risk of, or increases resilience to, future damage, hardship, loss, or suffering.

“(B) CERTIFICATION.—If the President determines that an application submitted under paragraph (1) meets the criteria described in subparagraph (A), the President shall certify the proposed resilience or mitigation project.

“(C) EFFECT OF CERTIFICATION.—The certification of a proposed resilience or mitiga-

tion project under subparagraph (B) shall not be construed to exempt the resilience or mitigation project from the requirements of any other law.

“(3) PROJECTS CAUSING DISPLACEMENT.—With respect to a resilience or mitigation project certified under paragraph (2)(B) that involves the displacement of a resident from any occupied housing unit, the entity performing the resilience or mitigation project shall—

“(A) provide, at the option of the resident, a suitable and habitable housing unit that is, with respect to the housing unit from which the resident is displaced—

“(i) of a comparable size;

“(ii) located in the same local community or a community with reduced hazard risk; and

“(iii) offered under similar costs, conditions, and terms;

“(B) ensure that property acquisitions resulting from the displacement and made in connection with the resilience or mitigation project—

“(i) are deed restricted in perpetuity to preclude future property uses not relating to mitigation or resilience; and

“(ii) are the result of a voluntary decision by the resident; and

“(C) plan for robust public participation in the resilience or mitigation project.”.

(b) NATIONAL RISK INDEX FUNDING.—Nothing in section 206 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, as added by subsection (a) of this section, shall be construed to prohibit the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency from using amounts available to maintain and update the National Risk Index until the earlier of—

(1) the date on which those amounts are transferred to another source; and

(2) 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

(c) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by this Act shall only apply with respect to amounts appropriated on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on S. 3875.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia? There was no objection.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the Community Disaster Resilience Zones Act, led by Congresswoman SHARICE DAVIDS in the House, will enable the Federal Emergency Management Agency to identify the communities most in need of mitigation projects and to help them access the necessary funding and support to complete such projects.

Climate change and development in high-risk zones has created a never-ending stream of disaster impacts that cause billions of dollars in damage around the country, which taxpayer

dollars must cover. This legislation will help protect communities and reduce the financial burden on taxpayers by targeting mitigation investments to communities that have the fewest resources to invest in resilience and are expected to incur the greatest amount of disaster damage.

By directing the Federal Emergency Management Agency to publicly designate the most in-need and at-risk census tracts as Community Disaster Resilience Zones, stakeholders can effectively target mitigation investments to these communities and make them more resilient. This legislation also authorizes Federal cost share flexibility for Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities grant project applicants in designated Community Disaster Resilience Zones.

I ask my colleagues to support the Community Disaster Resilience Zones Act, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1515

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 3875, the Community Disaster Resilience Zones Act of 2022, which amends the Stafford Act to include a section on natural disaster risk assessment.

This bill's intent is to make the public more aware of the inherent risks of disasters that may affect their communities.

It directs the President, or FEMA, to maintain a publicly available risk assessment program that shows what hazards pose the most threat to communities. It also directs the President, or FEMA, to provide financial or technical assistance to communities in designated community disaster resilience zones.

Establishing these zones will help communities, States, and the private sector better plan investments in mitigation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support of the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a letter of support for S. 3875 signed by 32 organizations.

DECEMBER 5, 2022.

Hon. PETER DEFAZIO,
Chairman, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

Hon. SAM GRAVES,
Ranking Member, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN DEFAZIO AND RANKING MEMBER GRAVES: We, the undersigned organizations, write to express support for S. 3875, the Community Disaster Resilience Zones (CDRZ) Act of 2022, which the Senate passed by unanimous consent and is nearly identical to the bill (H.R. 7242) your committee passed. Collectively, our organizations represent a wide variety of constituencies, including business, conservation, emergency managers, housing, infrastructure, local government, public safety, science, and taxpayer organizations. We commend the CDRZ Act bill sponsors, Rep-

resentatives Sharice Davids and Garret Graves and Senators Gary Peters and Rob Portman, for their bipartisan, bicameral leadership and thank them for introducing the CDRZ Act bills. This legislation is a critical, foundational step toward prioritizing and directing a whole-of-nation focus on the most vulnerable communities facing the risk of potentially life-threatening and economically devastating climate and natural disaster events.

The CDRZ Act would amend the Stafford Act to establish a statutory structure to identify and designate CDRZ communities that are the most in need and most at risk to natural hazards, such as hurricanes, flooding, earthquakes, and wildfires, to increase public and private sector investments in housing, infrastructure, and community-wide resilience. Building smart, modern, resilient infrastructure, including nature-based infrastructure, has long been among our top priorities. We support the CDRZ Act, which would:

Amend the Stafford Act by adding a requirement that FEMA maintain and update products and tools that define natural hazard risk across the U.S. and use that dataset to identify and designate CDRZ communities that are the most in need and most at risk to natural hazards;

Authorize the President to provide CDRZ-designated communities with assistance and funding for pre-disaster mitigation planning and projects to increase resilience against the identified hazards; and

Help prioritize and attract additional public and private sector funding (including public-private partnerships) for resilience projects in or primarily benefitting CDRZ-designated communities.

Thank you for your leadership. We look forward to continuing to work with you and Congress to ensure our communities most threatened by climate and natural disaster risk and most economically vulnerable have the support, resources, and opportunities they need to improve their resilience.

Sincerely,

US Resiliency Council (USRC), U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Taxpayers for Common Sense (TCS), SmarterSafer Coalition, SBP, Resilience Innovation Hub, Reinsurance Association of America (RAA), R Street Institute, National Wildlife Federation (NWF), National Special Districts Coalition (NSDC), National Institute of Building Sciences (NIBS), National Housing Conference (NHC), National Emergency Management Association (NEMA), National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies (NAMIC), National Association of Counties (NACo), Interstate Council on Water Policy (ICWP).

International Code Council (ICC), International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM), Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety (IBHS), Ecological Restoration Business Association (ERBA), The Council of Insurance Agents & Brokers (CIAB), Central United States Earthquake Consortium (CUSEC), Center for Climate and Energy Solutions (C2ES), BuildStrong Coalition, Big City Emergency Managers (BCEM), American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA), American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), American Property Casualty Insurance Association (APCIA), American Planning Association (APA), American Institute of Architects (AIA), American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC), After the Fire: Recover, Rebuild, Reimagine. (ATF3R).

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to the time remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Illinois has 19 minutes remaining.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time for closing.

My colleague, the chair of the subcommittee I have been blessed to serve on as ranking member, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, I thank her for working with us in a bipartisan way to move this bill forward.

Disaster resiliency matters in a district like mine that encompasses the Illinois and Mississippi River Basin. We see disasters on a regular basis. In fact, when I got to this institution 10 years ago, one of the first votes I had to make was on funding Superstorm Sandy relief. I remember saying the first time that I had a chance to talk about disaster assistance, as a brand new freshman, my comments were if the Federal Government should do something right, it is helping communities recover from disasters that they had no control over.

This is another good bipartisan step to making sure that happens in communities all across this Nation, from Montana to Washington, D.C., to Illinois and elsewhere.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support for this fine piece of legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time for closing.

This bill will also help my district, which was built on the rivers and where disaster resilience is most needed.

In closing, we know that investments in mitigation measures save up to \$11 for every \$1 spent. This legislation will save taxpayer dollars by investing in mitigation and protecting vulnerable communities.

I thank my colleague, SHARICE DAVIDS, for her work on this issue, and I support this targeted, data-driven approach. I urge my colleagues to do the same, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 3875.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

REPEAL OF OBSOLETE DHS CONTRACTING REQUIREMENTS

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 3499) to amend the Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006

to repeal certain obsolete requirements, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 3499

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. REPEAL OF OBSOLETE DHS CONTRACTING REQUIREMENTS.

The Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006 (Public Law 109-295; 120 Stat. 1394) is amended by striking section 692 (6 U.S.C. 792).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on S. 3499.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia? There was no objection.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this bill will repeal a section of the Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006 to conform the act with government-wide Federal acquisition regulation changes to subcontracting limits.

The National Defense Authorization Act of 2009 directed the Federal Acquisition Regulatory Council to institute a government-wide limitation on excessive subcontracting. This change put the Department of Homeland Security-specific requirements established by the Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act in conflict with government-wide rules. This bill simply repeals the Department of Homeland Security's obsolete requirement.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I also rise in support of S. 3499, which amends the Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006. This bill repeals outdated Department of Homeland Security contracting requirements that set a limit of 65 percent for subcontracting costs.

The National Defense Authorization Act of 2009 established a subcontracting cost limit at 70 percent. Unfortunately, these conflicting limits have just created confusion for contractors in emergency response and recovery efforts since then.

Repealing this obsolete provision will make subcontracting cost limits consistent with the rest of the Federal contracting regime.

Mr. Speaker, I remind you that these are not issues that are going to make

the 24-hour news cycle, but it is fixing broken pieces of the bureaucracy right here in this institution that can actually help communities recover faster.

If we don't address issues that aren't newsworthy according to the media experts, then we waste taxpayer dollars, we don't help communities recover, and we don't make government work for the people. I am proud to stand here and say I am a conservative when it comes to fixing government bureaucracy, and this is one of those fixes that we are putting forth today, in conjunction with the other side, in conjunction with the Senate.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, again, this fixes the Federal bureaucracy that was broken back post-Katrina. I was a congressional staffer in 2005 when we all watched in horror what happened to Louisiana and the Gulf Coast because of that tragic storm.

Provisions that were put in place post-Katrina in 2006, during the Bush presidency and into the Obama administration in 2009, long before I ever got here to the House floor, we are now fixing the inconsistencies, making government work for the people, and making government work for every single American who is going to be affected by a future disaster. That is everywhere. That is Montana, that is Illinois, and that is D.C. Every single place in the United States and our territories will be impacted positively by this consistent change to the bureaucracy through the procurement process that needed to be done years ago and is going to be done today because of the leadership of our Senate sponsors and also the leaders on the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and my colleague, Ms. NORTON.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support of this piece of legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time for closing.

S. 3499 is a simple example of good governance with bipartisan support. I support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 3499.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

□ 1530

RURAL OPIOID ABUSE PREVENTION ACT

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the

bill (S. 2796) to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide for the eligibility of rural community response pilot programs for funding under the Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Grant Program, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 2796

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Rural Opioid Abuse Prevention Act".

SEC. 2. ELIGIBILITY OF RURAL COMMUNITY RESPONSE PILOT PROGRAMS FOR FUNDING UNDER THE COMPREHENSIVE OPIOID ABUSE GRANT PROGRAM.

Section 3021 of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10701) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1)—

(A) in subparagraph (F), by striking "and";

(B) in subparagraph (G), by striking the period at the end and inserting "; and"; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

"(H) a pilot program for rural areas to implement community response programs that focus on reducing opioid overdose deaths, which may include presenting alternatives to incarceration, as described in subsection (f)."; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

"(f) RURAL PILOT PROGRAM.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The pilot program described under this subsection shall make grants to rural areas to implement community response programs to reduce opioid overdose deaths. Grants issued under this subsection shall be jointly operated by units of local government, in collaboration with public safety and public health agencies or public safety, public health and behavioral health collaborations. A community response program under this subsection shall identify gaps in community prevention, treatment, and recovery services for individuals who encounter the criminal justice system and shall establish treatment protocols to address identified shortcomings. The Attorney General, through the Office of Justice Programs, shall increase the amount provided as a grant under this section for a pilot program by no more than five percent for each of the two years following certification by the Attorney General of the submission of data by the rural area on the prescribing of schedules II, III, and IV controlled substances to a prescription drug monitoring program, or any other centralized database administered by an authorized State agency, which includes tracking the dispensation of such substances, and providing for interoperability and data sharing with each other such program (including an electronic health records system) in each other State, and with any interstate entity that shares information between such programs.

"(2) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to—

"(A) direct or encourage a State to use a specific interstate data sharing program; or

"(B) limit or prohibit the discretion of a prescription drug monitoring program for interoperability connections to other programs (including electronic health records systems, hospital systems, pharmacy dispensing systems, or health information exchanges)."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from

Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. JORDAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material on S. 2796.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, let me acknowledge that this legislation is from Senator JON OSSOFF. I know how important these issues are to him. At the very beginning, I thank him for his leadership. We have worked together as members of the Judiciary Committee, he in the Senate and myself in the House. I applaud him and look forward to more work on this constructive approach to drug use.

S. 2796, the Rural Opioid Abuse Prevention Act of 2022, is bipartisan legislation that would establish a pilot program for rural communities within the Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Grant Program.

The pilot program would make grants to rural areas to implement community response programs in order to reduce opioid overdose deaths. These community response programs would involve collaborations between public safety, public health, and behavioral health systems. The program will seek to identify gaps in current treatment availability and establish treatment programs to reduce opioid overdoses in rural areas.

Data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Health Statistics indicates that in 2021 there were an estimated 107,622 drug overdose deaths. The data also shows overdose deaths, including opioids, increased from an estimated 70,029 in 2020 to 80,816 in 2021.

Mr. Speaker, what compounds this, as I proceed in my debate here today, is that, just this morning, I read an article that says Texas rural hospitals are closing by the dozens, impacted by the pandemic and lack of personnel. We have an emerging, surging, if you will, synergism of default: individuals who need care, can't get care, and hospitals in rural communities that are closing.

With more than 200 Americans still dying of drug overdoses each day, it is even more important that we pass this critical legislation to get in the way, if you will.

In my hometown of Houston, overdose deaths have been exacerbated by strained access to treatment caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Opioid overdose deaths have increased throughout the State of Texas, rising from 4,154 deaths in 2020 to 4,831 deaths in 2021.

When we wanted to get the antidote to opioid, unfortunately, we couldn't get State funding. Police officers and recovery entities, they just couldn't get it because there was a philosophical disbelief that that had anything to do with some of the dangerous drugs out there to be able to help some of those who are in need.

S. 2796 would enable local communities and community organizations to develop and expand initiatives targeting rural and low-resource communities. Eligible applicants of the grant program would be required to have a documented history of providing services in rural communities or regions highly impacted by substance use disorder.

The programs supported by this legislation would be able to identify gaps in treatment access for rural communities, leverage Federal resources to expand treatment options, and ensure rural and remote communities are not forgotten in our effort to address the ongoing impact of opioid abuse disorder across the country. The point that should be made is that rural communities are north, south, east, and west.

Building on the successful Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Grant Program, this bipartisan bill would expand it to include a pilot program targeting rural communities.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman LAMB and Senator OSSOFF for introducing this important legislation. I urge all of my colleagues to support the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this bipartisan legislation codifies into law an existing Department of Justice pilot program known as the Rural Responses to the Opioid Epidemic initiative, established during the Trump administration.

In 2020, the Trump administration created the new initiative to improve the opioid response and to reduce opioid overdose deaths in America's high-risk rural communities. The initiative enables 21 rural communities to receive existing Department of Justice funding to develop responses in opioid prevention treatment and recovery services.

While this work is important, it is also critical that we not lose sight of the dangerous drugs like fentanyl that are so easily trafficked across our southern border.

The Biden border crisis is making America's drug crisis worse. We have seen record numbers of drug seizures like fentanyl, encounters of illegal aliens, and apprehensions of suspected terrorists at the southern border.

For example, in fiscal year 2022, Customs and Border Protection seized over 14,000 pounds of fentanyl at the border and up to 10,000 pounds in fiscal year 2021 and 4,500 pounds in fiscal year 2020.

Oh, by the way, these drugs are only what CBP officers catch. We do not

know the amount of dangerous drugs that have slipped through the gaps due to President Biden's open border policies, but there is no mistake that drug cartels and illegal aliens are taking advantage of the crisis at our border.

Meanwhile, our drug crisis continues to spiral out of control. We have seen the sad reality that overdose deaths in America reached an all-time high last year. An estimated 107,000 Americans died from drug overdoses in 2021, an increase of approximately 15 percent from the previous year.

Overdose deaths involving both opioids and synthetic opioids like fentanyl sharply increased in 2021 compared to the year before. These dangerous drugs are killing Americans at record levels and destroying families and communities across America. Communities in rural America have been particularly hard-hit by the opioid crisis.

While passage of this legislation will continue the important work started by President Trump's administration to help rural communities combat this crisis, we must do more. We must also take actions to address the Biden border crisis and stem the flow of illicit drugs flowing into our country.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Let me, first of all, again acknowledge Senator OSSOFF and Congressman LAMB. This is an important piece of legislation, but my good friend knows that I am going to have to add to this discussion by saying that, again, the question of fentanyl, no one wants to see that proliferated and causing the disastrous conditions that we have.

But listen to the story of Ms. Alfaro, who was 19 years old. She lived in Appleton, Wisconsin, and "was a recent high school graduate raising a toddler and considering joining the Army when she and a friend bought what they thought was the antianxiety drug Xanax in December 2020."

The pills were fake and contained fentanyl, an opioid that can be 50 times more powerful.

One of the things that we should understand is fentanyl is everywhere, and it has been determined that most of the fentanyl that comes across the border is brought over by U.S. citizens.

The other aspect that is very important that doesn't specifically cover this bill, but at least this bill provides what the mother indicated, she didn't know anything about these drugs. She wished she could have helped her daughter. Yes, her daughter did lose her life.

The point this legislation is making is let's provide information to these rural communities, but also let's understand some of the techniques that some States and local communities were not providing law enforcement or anyone else. Certainly, that is the fentanyl test strips and Narcan. That

certainly was a problem and continues to be a problem in the State of Texas.

We have to look at this holistically, and I think this legislation focuses, certainly, on getting families information, particularly in the rural areas. This was Appleton, Wisconsin. At least, minimally, there would have been information about this, maybe in a broader way, because the mother of the 19-year-old said, "Two years ago, I knew nothing about this."

We have to do a better job of telling the facts about fentanyl that we all want to see be extinguished from causing the loss of life.

I think this legislation for rural communities is a very good start, but we need to make sure that our facts are accurate as we talk about this deadly drug, which we want to get off the streets of this Nation. We need to find ways that can be very effective, and we need to keep working.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. FEENSTRA), my good friend.

Mr. FEENSTRA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this Rural Opioid Abuse Prevention Act.

I am from rural America. I am from rural Iowa, and I have seen the effects of opioids. It affects all ages. Those that are in high school that get hurt, that have a knee go out or a shoulder, they get affected by taking opioids.

This bipartisan legislation, which I introduced with my colleague, CONOR LAMB, will help prevent opioid abuse and overdoses in rural America.

In 2021 alone, nearly 100,000 Americans died from some drug overdose. This is unacceptable. This bill can do something about it.

My legislation will help the most vulnerable in rural America, in rural communities, recover from addiction and provide our first responders with the support they need to save lives.

There are too many barriers to rural healthcare right now, and we need to ensure that our Federal programs can efficiently reach communities in rural America that can make a difference when it comes to opioid abuse, and that is exactly what this bill does.

I urge my colleagues to support this important program because too many families have lost loved ones to the opioid epidemic, and they have also been affected by a family member's addiction. That needs to change.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to support this bill.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to offer a number of articles that speak to the importance of this legislation. I thank the gentleman from Iowa for his comments in support, and I know that the gentleman from Ohio will likewise, hopefully, join us.

It is important to speak the obvious. U.S. overdose deaths in 2021 increased

half as much as in 2020 but are still up. We know that we need legislation specifically in communities in rural areas that would close or identify the gaps in prevention, treatment, and recovery services for individuals who interact with the criminal justice system in rural areas and create new efforts to address the opioid crisis.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD an article from the Centers for Disease Control's National Center for Health Statistics.

[From the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, May 11, 2022]

U.S. OVERDOSE DEATHS IN 2021 INCREASED HALF AS MUCH AS IN 2020—BUT ARE STILL UP 15 PERCENT

Provisional data from CDC's National Center for Health Statistics indicate there were an estimated 107,622 drug overdose deaths in the United States during 2021, an increase of nearly 15 percent from the 93,655 deaths estimated in 2020. The 2021 increase was half of what it was a year ago, when overdose deaths rose 30 percent from 2019 to 2020.

The data is featured in an interactive web data visualization. The 2021 data presented in this visualization are provisional—they are incomplete and subject to change.

The new data show overdose deaths involving opioids increased from an estimated 70,029 in 2020 to 80,816 in 2021. Overdose deaths from synthetic opioids (primarily fentanyl), psychostimulants such as methamphetamine, and cocaine also continued to increase in 2021 compared to 2020.

The biggest percentage increase in overdose deaths in 2021 occurred in Alaska, where deaths were up 75.3 percent, while overdose deaths in Wyoming did not increase at all in 2021 and deaths in Hawaii declined 1.8 percent from the same point in 2020. The visualization includes:

Reported and predicted (estimated) provisional counts of deaths due to drug overdose occurring nationally and in each jurisdiction.

U.S. map of the percentage changes in provisional drug overdose deaths for the 12-month period ending in December 2021 compared with the 12-month period ending in December 2020, by jurisdiction.

Reported and predicted provisional counts of drug overdose deaths involving specific drugs or drug classes occurring nationally and in selected jurisdictions.

NCHS releases both reported and predicted provisional drug overdose death counts each month. They represent the numbers of these deaths due to drug overdose occurring in the 12-month periods ending in the month indicated. These counts include all seasons of the year and are insensitive to variations by seasonality. Deaths are reported by the jurisdiction in which the death occurred.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I think it is important to emphasize that, really, treatment works, and this is an example. "Thomas Gooch has spent more than 30 years struggling with illegal drugs. The 52-year-old Nashville, Tennessee, native grew up in extreme poverty. He was first incarcerated in 1988 and spent the next 15 years in and out of jail for using and selling narcotics. 'Until 2003,' Gooch says. 'That was the first time I went to treatment and the last time I used.'"

This has to also be a component, which is the treatment of individuals whose conditions put them in this way.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD "The Opioid Epidemic Is Surging

Among Black People Because of Unequal Access to Treatment."

[From Scientific American, Dec. 1, 2022]

THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC IS SURGING AMONG BLACK PEOPLE BECAUSE OF UNEQUAL ACCESS TO TREATMENT

(By Melba Newsome and Gioncarlo Valentine)

In one way or another, Thomas Gooch has spent more than 30 years struggling with illegal drugs. The 52-year-old Nashville, Tenn., native grew up in extreme poverty. He was first incarcerated in 1988 and spent the next 15 years in and out of jail for using and selling narcotics. "Until 2003," Gooch says. "That was the first time I went to treatment and the last time I used." Since then, for most of 19 years, Gooch has been trying to get others into recovery or just keep them alive. He handed out clean needles and injection-drug equipment—which reduce injuries, infections and overdose deaths—in Nashville's hardest-hit communities. In 2014 he founded My Father's House, a transitional recovery facility for fathers struggling with substance use disorder.

But despite Gooch's long experience, the opioid epidemic recently has brought a level of devastation to the Black community that has shocked him. "I had never seen death the way I've seen death when it comes to opioid addiction," he says. "There's been so many funerals, it doesn't even make sense. I personally know at least 50 to 60 individuals who died from overdoses in the last 10 years." That staggering body count includes Gooch's recently estranged wife in 2020 and a former partner in 2019.

A million people in the U.S. have died of opioid overdoses since the 1990s. But the face—and race—of the opioid epidemic has changed in the past decade. Originally white and middle class, victims are now Black and brown people struggling with long-term addictions and too few resources. During 10 brutal years, opioid and stimulant deaths have increased 575 percent among Black Americans. In 2019 the overall drug overdose death rate among Black people exceeded that of whites for the first time: 36.8 versus 31.6 per 100,000. And with the addition of fentanyl, the synthetic opioid that's 50 to 100 times more powerful than morphine, Black men older than 55 who survived for decades with a heroin addiction are dying at rates four times greater than people of other races in that age group.

The reasons for this dramatic change come down to racial inequities. Research shows that Black people have a harder time getting into treatment programs than white people do, and Black people are less likely to be prescribed the gold standard medications for substance use therapy. "If you are a Black person and have an opioid use disorder, you are likely to receive treatment five years later than if you're a white person," says Nora D. Volkow, director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse at the National Institutes of Health. "Treatments are extraordinarily useful in terms of preventing overdose death so you can actually recover. Five years can make the difference between being alive or not." Black people with substance use problems are afraid of being caught up in a punitive criminal justice system and are less likely to have insurance good enough to allow them to seek help on their own. And the COVID pandemic disrupted many recovery and harm-reduction services, particularly for people of color.

Gooch blames straight-out racial discrimination in the health-care system, too. "When we call different places to try to get people into treatment, the question they ask is 'What drug do they use?'" he recounts with

exasperation. “If you say ‘crack,’ all of a sudden they ain’t got no bed available. If you say opioids and heroin, they will find a bed because that’s the demographic they want. A couple of times I told patients that the only way they’re going to get help is to get drunk and turn themselves into Vanderbilt Hospital because Vanderbilt will hold them for five days, and that’ll get them into treatment.”

Gooch is one of the people trying to improve access to therapies for addiction and change the overall dysfunctional dynamic. Other groups are bringing more effective addiction treatments within prison walls, reducing the chances of recidivism on release. A proposed federal law would make therapy with the commonly used addiction medication methadone less onerous for an impoverished population, as well as less stigmatizing. And Volkow is using her platform at the NIH to highlight the overwhelming research-based evidence for better ways to understand and treat addiction.

ACCESS TO TREATMENT

The nation’s historic reluctance to treat addiction as a health-care issue rather than a criminal justice one has resulted in a health-care system where too few people of any race—just 10 percent—receive treatment for substance use disorder. Several factors, such as stigma and an inability to afford or access care, make the numbers considerably more dismal among people of color. Even after a nonfatal overdose, Black patients are half as likely to be referred to or access treatment as non-Hispanic white patients, according to federal government data.

A growing recognition that criminalization and incarceration do little to curb illegal drug use or improve public health or safety has led to harm-reduction policies such as Good Samaritan laws—statutes that provide limited immunity for low-level drug violations and increase availability of naloxone, a drug that can reverse overdose. But racial disparities have emerged in the application and effectiveness of both measures. A study from RTI International found that Black and Latino intravenous drug users have inequitable access to the medication.

Loftin Wilson, program manager for the NC Harm Reduction Coalition in Durham, N.C., who has worked in the field for more than a decade, says the problems with inequality lead to distrust in the system, which creates a vicious cycle in which people who need help won’t go to institutions that can provide help. People entering treatment worry, with good reason, that dealing with the social service system can cause them to lose their employment, housing or even custody of their children. “That’s another example of the negative experiences people who use drugs have. They definitely don’t land equally on everybody, and people don’t experience them all the same way. It is a vastly different experience to be a Black drug user seeking health care than for a white person,” Wilson says.

University of Cincinnati psychologist Kathleen Bulew notes, as Volkow does, that when Black patients enter treatment, they are more likely to do so later than white people and are less likely to complete it. In addition to mistrust, she says, the less favorable outcomes result from factors such as clinician bias and lack of racial and ethnic diversity among treatment providers.

Federal resources, such as grants to support local opioid use disorder clinics and programs, also tend to favor white populations. According to 2021 data from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 77 percent of the clients treated with grant funding were white, 12.9 percent were Black and 2.8 percent were Native American.

The disparity is even more pronounced in some states. For example, in 2019 North Carolina announced that white people made up 88 percent of those served by its \$54-million federal grant, compared with 7.5 percent for Black people. Native Americans accounted for less than 1 percent of those served.

MEDICATION INEQUALITY

Research has shown that there is a bias among health-care providers against using medication-assisted treatment (MAT), which combines FDA-approved drugs with counseling and behavioral therapies. Substance use specialists consider it the best approach to the opioid use problem. Yet a study published in JAMA Network found that about 40 percent of the 368 U.S. residential drug programs surveyed did not offer MAT, and 21 percent actively discouraged people from using it. Many addiction treatment programs are faith-based and see addiction as a moral problem, which leads to the conclusion that relying on medication for abstinence or sobriety simply trades one form of addiction for another. Many general practitioners who lack training in addiction medicine have this misconception.

The three medications approved by the FDA are buprenorphine, methadone and naltrexone. Buprenorphine and methadone are synthetic opioids that block brain opioid receptors and reduce both cravings and withdrawal. Naltrexone is a postdetox monthly injectable that blocks the effects of opioids. Very few insurance providers in the U.S. cover all three medications, and according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the full range of medications is far less available to Black people.

Research suggests that economics and race influence who receives which medications. Buprenorphine, for instance, is more widely available in counties with predominantly white communities, whereas methadone clinics are usually located in poor communities of color.

To use methadone, patients must make daily visits to a clinic to receive and take the medication under the supervision of a practitioner. This requirement makes it difficult to do things that build a normal life, such as attending school and obtaining and maintaining a job. There is also the stigma of standing in a public line known to everyone passing by as a queue for addiction treatment. “The treatment model was developed [during the Nixon administration] based on racism and a stigmatized view of people with addiction without any thought of privacy or dignity or treating addiction like a health problem,” says Andrew Kolodny, medical director of the Opioid Policy Research Collaborative at Brandeis University. The stigma is made worse by methadone’s classification as a Schedule II controlled substance, which is defined as a substance with a high potential for abuse, potentially leading to severe psychological or physical dependence. This categorization pushed the medication into a quasicriminalized status and the clinics into minority communities.

Buprenorphine, however, is a completely different story. When opioid use problems increased in white communities, Congress acted to create less stigmatizing treatment options. The Drug Addiction Treatment Act of 2000 (“DATA 2000”) lifted an 86-year ban that prevented treating opioid addiction with narcotic medications such as buprenorphine, which today is sold under the brand names Subutex and Suboxone. The majority of doctors who got special federal licenses to prescribe it accept only commercial health insurance and cash, so the drug is usually offered to a more affluent popu-

lation, which in the U.S. means white people. About 95 percent of buprenorphine patients are white, and 34 percent have private insurance, according to a national study of data through 2015.

John Woodyear is an addiction treatment specialist in Troy, a small rural town in south central North Carolina where the epidemic is exacting an increasingly heavy toll on the Black and Native American populations. Overall overdose death rates increased 40 percent from 2019 to 2020, but death rates among those two groups in particular went up 66 and 93 percent, respectively. Yet Woodyear, who is Black and practices in a town that is 31 percent Black, says his patients are 90 percent white. People come to the clinic through word of mouth or referrals from friends. As long as Woodyear’s patients are mostly white, new patients will be mostly white as well, he says.

One exception to this racial pattern is Edwin Chapman’s clinic in the Northeast neighborhood of Washington, D.C., one of the district’s predominantly Black and most impoverished communities. Chapman, a physician, often prescribes buprenorphine to his patients with opioid use problems, and the overwhelming majority of them are Black. He says that to prescribe the drug, physicians like him must get past certain roadblocks. “The insurance companies in many states put more restrictions on patients in an urban setting, such as requiring prior authorization for addiction treatment,” he says. Further, “to increase the dose above 16 or 24 milligrams, you may have to get a prior authorization. The dosing standards were based on the white population and people who were addicted to pills. Our surviving Black population often needs a higher dose of buprenorphine.”

Chapman says few physicians in private practice are willing to treat these patients. “They don’t really feel comfortable having these patients in their office, or they aren’t really prepared to deal with the economic and mental health issues that come with this population,” he explains; those disorders include bipolar disorder and schizophrenia, among others.

People have their own biases that keep them away from medication such as buprenorphine, Wilson says. Many view it as simply trading one drug for another. “They think, ‘If I’m going to take this step, why not just go to detox and not take any medications at all,’” he says. “There’s a big cultural misunderstanding about the fact that [these] medications are the only evidence-based treatment for (opioid use disorder). Short-term detox isn’t the most appropriate intervention for most people.”

Gooch agrees that the bias is real. He facilitates recovery groups at a program operated by a group from Meharry Medical College, a historically Black institution. Yet “I haven’t seen one Black person yet,” Gooch says. “Some think it’s a setup. There’s so much distrust, they have a hard time thinking it’s legal. It’s just the culture of Black people. Many are religious and think [taking the drug] is wrong.”

“Those [misconceptions] are holdovers from our having been miseducated from the outset,” Chapman says. “Whites have done a tremendous job educating their community that this is a medical problem, a disease. In the African American community, drug addiction has always been and continues to be seen as a moral problem, and incarceration was the treatment.”

HOPE FOR CHANGE

In the November 2021 issue of Neuropsychopharmacology, Volkow argued that it is long past time for a new approach to drug addiction that would address these misconceptions within the most affected populations

and biases among providers. “We have known for decades that addiction is a medical condition—a treatable brain disorder—not a character flaw or a form of social deviance,” she wrote.

Volkow argues that treatment reform should start with prison and the criminal justice system. Even though there is no difference along racial lines in who uses illegal drugs, Black people nonetheless were arrested for drug offenses at five times the rate of white people in 2016. The racial disproportionality in incarcerated drug offenders does not reflect higher rates of drug law violations, only higher rates of arrest among racial and ethnic minorities. Currently the number of arrests for heroin (which more Black people use) exceeds the arrests for diverted prescription opioids (which more white people use), even though the latter is more prevalent.

These unequal arrests and incarcerations add to the racial inequalities in drug treatment and survival rates. An estimated two thirds of people in U.S. correctional settings have a diagnosable substance use disorder, and approximately 95 percent will relapse after their release. In the two weeks postrelease, the risk of overdose increases more than 100-fold, and the chances of death increase 12-fold.

Paradoxically, that makes prisons and jails—institutions with the most obvious and overt racial disparities—the places with the greatest potential to bring about effective change. Volkow points to a recent NIH study as proof that starting substance disorder treatment during incarceration lowers the risk of probation violations and reincarcerations and improves the chances of recovery. But only one in 13 prisoners with substance use problems receives treatment, according to a Pew data analysis.

Some local programs have started to tackle some of these issues. In Pittsburgh, the Allegheny Health Network’s RIVER (Rethinking Incarceration and Empowering Recovery) Clinic opened in May 2021. Its goal is to reduce recidivism among people with addictions by providing care for the formerly incarcerated immediately on their release from jail, regardless of their ability to pay. Since opening, the clinic’s caregivers have engaged with hundreds of people.

New York City recently became the first municipality in the country to sanction overdose prevention centers where people with substance use disorder can use drugs under medical supervision. Two sites, one in East Harlem and the other in Washington Heights, opened in December 2021. They have had more than 10,000 visits and prevented nearly 200 overdoses by administering the medication naloxone.

There are other signs of change, too. California signed a law that requires every treatment provider in the state to provide a “client bill of rights” to notify patients of all aspects of recommended treatment, including no treatment at all, treatment risks and expected results. And federal authorities loosened methadone regulations during the pandemic. Instead of daily in-person visits, more patients were allowed to use telehealth consultations and take doses home. Senators ED MARKEY of Massachusetts and RAND PAUL of Kentucky have introduced a bill that would make that change permanent. Among other programs and initiatives across the country, these are an indication that drug treatment policy may be headed in a more equitable, evidence-based direction.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I also include in the RECORD the article regarding the tragic young lady who died in Appleton, Wisconsin, and even now give sympathy to that family and make sure that we have the basic facts.

“Advocates warn that some of the alarms being sounded by politicians and officials are wrong and potentially dangerous. Among those ideas: that tightening control of the U.S.-Mexico border would stop the flow of the drugs, though experts say the key to reining in the crisis is reducing drug demand.”

She was looking for Xanax. Someone made phony Xanax, and then fentanyl was in it. That is just heartbreaking. It is tragic. We have to know where to spend our resources.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD this article: “Myths about fentanyl persist as opioid continues to cause overdose deaths.”

[From the PBS News Hour, Oct. 28, 2022]

MYTHS ABOUT FENTANYL PERSIST AS OPIOID CONTINUES TO CAUSE OVERDOSE DEATHS

Lillianna Alfaro was a recent high school graduate raising a toddler and considering joining the Army when she and a friend bought what they thought was the anti-anxiety drug Xanax in December 2020.

The pills were fake and contained fentanyl, an opioid that can be 50 times as powerful as the same amount of heroin. It killed them both.

“Two years ago, I knew nothing about this,” said Holly Groelle, the mother of 19-year-old Alfaro, who lived in Appleton, Wisconsin. “I felt bad because it was something I could not have warned her about because I didn’t know.”

The drug that killed her daughter was rare a decade ago, but fentanyl and other lab-produced synthetic opioids now are driving an overdose crisis deadlier than any the U.S. has ever seen. Last year, overdoses from all drugs claimed more than 100,000 lives for the first time, and the deaths this year have remained at nearly the same level—more than gun and auto deaths combined.

The federal government counted more accidental overdose deaths in 2021 alone than it did in the 20-year period from 1979 through 1998. Overdoses in recent years have been many times more frequent than they were during the black tar heroin epidemic that led President Richard Nixon to launch his War on Drugs or during the cocaine crisis in the 1980s.

As fentanyl gains attention, mistaken beliefs persist about the drug, how it is trafficked and why so many people are dying.

Experts believe deaths surged not only because the drugs are so powerful, but also because fentanyl is laced into so many other illicit drugs, and not because of changes in how many people are using. In the late 2010s—the most recent period for which federal data is available—deaths were skyrocketing even as the number of people using opioids was dropping.

Advocates warn that some of the alarms being sounded by politicians and officials are wrong and potentially dangerous. Among those ideas: that tightening control of the U.S.-Mexico border would stop the flow of the drugs, though experts say the key to reining in the crisis is reducing drug demand; that fentanyl might turn up in kids’ trick-or-treat baskets this Halloween; and that merely touching the drug briefly can be fatal—something that researchers found untrue and that advocates worry can make first responders hesitate about giving life-saving treatment.

All three ideas were brought up this month in an online video billed as a pre-Halloween public service announcement from a dozen Republican U.S. senators.

A report this year from a bipartisan federal commission found that fentanyl and

similar drugs are being made mostly in labs in Mexico from chemicals shipped primarily from China.

In New England, fentanyl has largely replaced the supply of heroin. Across the country, it’s being laced into drugs such as cocaine and methamphetamine, sometimes with deadly results. And in cases like Alfaro’s, it’s being mixed in Mexico or the U.S. with other substances and pressed into pills meant to look like other drugs.

The U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency has warned that fentanyl is being sold in multi-colored pills and powders—sometimes referred to as “rainbow fentanyl”—marketed on social media to teens and young adults.

Jon DeLena, the agency’s associate special agent in charge, said at the National Crime Prevention Council summit on fentanyl in Washington this month that there’s “no direct information that Halloween is specifically being targeted or young people are being targeted for Halloween,” but that hasn’t kept that idea from spreading.

Joel Best, an emeritus sociology professor at the University of Delaware, said that idea falls in with a long line of Halloween-related scares. He has examined cases since 1958 and has not found a single instance of a child dying because of something foreign put into Halloween candy—and few instances of that being done at all.

“If you give a dose of fentanyl to kids in elementary school, you have an excellent chance of killing them,” he said. “If you do addict them, what are you going to do, try to take their lunch money? No one is trying to addict little kids to fentanyl.”

In midterm election campaigns, fentanyl is not getting as much attention as issues such as inflation and abortion. But Republicans running for offices including governor and U.S. Senate in Arkansas, New Mexico and Pennsylvania have framed the fentanyl crisis as a result of Democrats being lax about securing the Mexican border or soft on crime as part of a broader campaign assertion that Democrats foster lawlessness.

And when Democrats highlight the overdose crisis in campaigns this year, it has often been to tout their roles in forging settlements to hold drugmakers and distributors responsible.

Relying heavily on catching fentanyl at the border would be futile, experts say, because it’s easy to move in small, hard-to-detect quantities.

“I don’t think that reducing the supply is going to be the answer because it’s so easy to mail,” said Adam Wandt, an assistant professor at John Jay College of Criminal Justice.

Still, some more efforts are planned on the U.S.-Mexico border, including increasing funding to search more vehicles crossing ports of entry. The bipartisan commission found those crossings are where most fentanyl arrives in the country.

The commission is calling for many of the measures that other advocates want to see, including better coordination of the federal response, targeted enforcement, and measures to prevent overdoses for those who use drugs.

The federal government has been funding efforts along those lines. It also publicizes big fentanyl seizures by law enforcement, though it’s believed that even the largest busts make small dents in the national drug supply.

The commission stopped short of calling for increased penalties for selling fentanyl. Bryce Pardo, associate director of the RAND Drug Policy Research Center and a commission staff member, said such a measure would not likely deter the drug trade. But, he said, dealers who sell the products most likely to cause death—such as mixing

fentanyl into cocaine or pressing it into fake Xanax could be targeted effectively.

One California father who lost his 20-year-old daughter is pushing for prosecutors to file murder charges against those who supply fatal doses. Matt Capelouto's daughter Alexandra died from half a pill she bought from a dealer she found on social media in 2019, while home in Temecula, California, during a college break. She was told the pill was oxycodone, Capelouto said, but it contained fentanyl.

The dealer was charged with distributing fentanyl resulting in death, but he reached a plea deal on a lesser drug charge and will face up to 20 years in prison.

"It's not that arresting and convicting and putting these guys behind bars doesn't work," Capelouto said. "The fact is we don't do it enough to make a difference."

While some people killed by fentanyl have no idea they're taking it, others, particularly those with opioid use disorder, know it is or could be in the mix. But they may not know how much is in their drugs.

That was the case for Susan Ousterman's son Tyler Cordiero, who died at 24 in 2020 from a mixture that included fentanyl after years of using heroin and other opioids.

For nearly two years, Ousterman avoided going by the gas station near their home in Bensalem, Pennsylvania, where her son fatally overdosed. But in August, she went to leave two things there: naloxone, a drug used to reverse overdoses, and a poster advertising a hotline for people using drugs to call so the operator could call for help if they become unresponsive.

Ousterman is funneling her anger and sorrow into preventing other overdoses.

"Fentanyl is everywhere," she said. "You don't know what's in an unregulated drug supply. You don't know what you're taking. You're always taking the chance of dying every time."

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1545

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. FEENSTRA for his work on the legislation. We support the litigation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

I thank the gentleman from Ohio for his work on this bill and indicate that we are pleased to, likewise, support and thank Congressman LAMB and the gentleman from Georgia, Senator OSSOFF, for introducing this legislation.

I urge all of my colleagues to support this bill, as well, and to ensure that we provide really deep collaboration in our rural communities to help people who don't have access either to this kind of treatment, knowledge or prevention, and then, as I indicated, to medical care because hospitals are closing.

This is an important legislative initiative. I am hoping that we will support the Rural Opioid Abuse Prevention Act because it is bipartisan legislation. It is time for our Nation to face the increased overall overdoses and deaths in everyday communities large and small.

With more than 200 Americans dying of drug overdoses each day, Congress must act to support small and rural communities in addressing this crisis.

Mr. Speaker, S. 2796, the "Rural Opioid Abuse Prevention Act of 2022," is bipartisan

legislation that would establish a pilot program for rural communities within the Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Grant Program.

The pilot program would make grants to rural areas to implement community response programs in order to reduce opioid overdose deaths. These community response programs would involve collaborations between public safety, public health, and behavioral health systems. The pilot programs would seek to identify gaps in current treatment availability and establish treatment programs to reduce opioid overdoses in rural areas.

Data from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Health Statistics indicates that in 2021 there were an estimated 107,622 drug overdose deaths. The data also shows overdose deaths involving opioids increased from an estimated 70,029 in 2020 to 80,816 in 2021.

With more than 200 Americans still dying of drug overdoses each day, it is even more important that we pass this critical legislation. In my hometown of Houston, overdose deaths have been exacerbated by strained access to treatment caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Opioid overdose deaths have increased throughout the state of Texas, rising from 4,154 deaths in 2020 to 4,831 deaths in 2021.

S. 2796 would enable local governments and community organizations to develop and expand initiatives targeting rural and low resourced communities. Eligible applicants of the grant program would be required to have a documented history of providing services to rural communities or regions highly impacted by substance use disorder. The programs supported by this legislation would be able to identify gaps in treatment access for rural communities, leverage federal resources to expand treatment options, and ensure rural and remote communities are not forgotten in our efforts to address the ongoing impact of opioid abuse disorder across the country.

Building on the successful Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Grant Program, this bipartisan bill would expand it to include a pilot program targeting rural communities.

I want to thank Congressman LAMB and Senator OSSOFF for introducing this important legislation. I urge all of my colleagues to support the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 2796.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

PROVIDING RESOURCES, OFFICERS, AND TECHNOLOGY TO ERADICATE CYBER THREATS TO OUR CHILDREN ACT OF 2022

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the

bill (S. 4834) to reauthorize the National Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force Program.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 4834

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Providing Resources, Officers, and Technology to Eradicate Cyber Threats to Our Children Act of 2022" or the "PROTECT Our Children Act of 2022".

SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION.

Section 107(a)(10) of the PROTECT Our Children Act of 2008 (34 U.S.C. 21117(a)(10)) is amended by striking "2022" and inserting "2024".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. JORDAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on S. 4834.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 4834, the PROTECT Our Children Act of 2022, a critical piece of bipartisan legislation that would reauthorize the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, or ICAC, which has worked tirelessly for 14 years to protect our children from online predators.

It is no exaggeration to say the internet today is one of the most dangerous places for our Nation's children, many of whom spend hours online each day. Predators use social media and other online resources to groom and entice children to commit sexual acts.

The internet makes it easy for sex and labor traffickers to gain clandestine access to children and teens, recruit them into their organization, and exploit them. The internet is also the primary vehicle for distributing child sex abuse material and committing criminal acts of extortion against minors. It also provides an open forum for cyberbullying and online harassment, which can lead victims of such conduct to withdraw, become depressed, and even commit suicide.

To combat these monstrous crimes and to protect our youth from exploitation, ICAC task forces work with Federal, State, and local law enforcement to develop an effective holistic response to cybercrimes against children. Their programs include forensic and investigative components, training and technical assistance, victim services, and community education.

This network is made up of 61 separate forces, three of which are in my home State of Texas. These task forces are created and authorized by the original PROTECT Our Children Act of 2008, which expired this past September at the end of the fiscal year.

Online threats to children and the need for ICAC task forces are only growing. Between 2008 and 2021, the number of these arrests rose from 2,500 to more than 10,000 each year. This agency's work resulted in more than 137,000 investigations and 90,300 forensic exams in 2021 alone.

Earlier this year, the southern Texas task force received significant funding, its first, authorized by the PROTECT Our Children Act allowing it to provide substantial investigative, prosecutorial, and victim services and to utilize tips from the ICAC database and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, a longstanding agency that has been fighting for missing and exploited children to identify and rescue child victims.

The work of these task forces nationwide will not be able to continue unless we fund this critical law enforcement initiative. It is, therefore, essential that we reauthorize the ICAC program by passing the bipartisan PROTECT Our Children Act of 2022. The act would extend funding for these task forces and programs through 2024.

Without this crucial legislation, our children will remain vulnerable to those who seek to exploit and hurt them in the most horrific of ways with the ease and anonymity that the internet provides.

I commend my colleague, Representative WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, for her work on the PROTECT Our Children Act as far back as 2008, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, S. 4834 reauthorizes the National Strategy for Child Exploitation Prevention and Interdiction for an additional 2 years.

In 2008, Congress passed the PROTECT Our Children Act, which required the attorney general to develop and implement a National Strategy for Child Exploitation Prevention and Interdiction.

The PROTECT Our Children Act formally authorized the Internet Crimes Against Children task forces. These task forces support State and local law enforcement agencies in combating online enticement of children and the proliferation of online child sexual abuse material.

Since its inception, nearly 90,000 individuals have been arrested because of complaints reviewed by these task forces. They not only put the dangerous criminals behind bars, but they also provide outreach to communities to spread awareness about and, hopefully, prevent internet crimes against kids.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a "yes" vote on this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD: "Houston ICAC Task Force Records Nine Arrests for Child Exploitation" showing that there is true evidence that this program works.

[From the Texas News, July 7, 2022]

HOUSTON ICAC TASK FORCE RECORDS 9
ARRESTS FOR CHILD EXPLOITATION

(By Amy Gordon)

During the weeks of June 2022, the Montgomery County District Attorney's Office (MCDAO) Cybercrimes Against Children (ICAC) Division, part of the Houston Metro ICAC Task Force, conducted a multi-day interagency operation targeting individuals who were actively children sought sexual exploitation via the Internet in Montgomery County. Multiple law enforcement agencies were involved in the operation including the Montgomery County Attorney's Office, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Texas Department of Public Safety, Houston Police Department, Conroe Police Department, Montgomery County Pct. 1, pt. 2, pt. 3 and pt. 5 Police Departments, Humble Police Department, Ft. Bend County Sheriff's Office, Missouri City Police Department and the Spring Branch Independent School District Police Department.

The Houston Metro ICAC Taskforce is part of a national network of 61 coordinated task forces representing over 4,500 federal, state and local law enforcement agencies dedicated to investigating and prosecuting those who attempt to sexually exploit children via the Internet.

During this multi-day operation, the Montgomery County District Attorney's Office ICAC section, moderated by Constable Ryan Gable and Montgomery County Constable's Office Precinct 3 deputies, conducted a proactive chat operation in southern Montgomery County. Task Force members also obtained an arrest warrant for Thomas J. Manno of Clarion County, Pennsylvania, and provided local authorities with essential information to execute a search warrant on his home.

Task Force members contributed to the following arrests during the operation:

Thomas J. Manno—39—Shippensburg, Pennsylvania—Promotion of Child Pornography (F2)

Robert Clarence Clayton—27—Channelview, Texas—Online Ad by a Minor (F2)

Isaac Anthony Marino—30—Houston, Texas—Online solicitation by a minor (F2)

Francisco Xavier Garza—29—Spring, Texas—Online solicitation by a minor (F2) // Possibly with intent to supply—Methamphetamine (F1)

Elijah Charles Lewis—24—Houston, Texas—Online Solicitation by a Minor (F2)

Ahsan Shah—36—Houston, Texas—Online solicitation by a minor (F2)

Lawrence Clayton Hopkins—55—Baytown, Texas—Online solicitation by a minor (F2)

Edward Stewart Geddes—42—Houston, Texas—Online solicitation by a minor (F2) // Evidence tampering (F3)

Clinton Brian Harvey—44—Dickinson, Texas—Soliciting a Minor Online (F3) // Unlawful Carrying of a Gun (MA)

The above accused are still under investigation and additional charges may be brought at a later date. All accused are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

During the investigation of Lawrence Clayton Hopkins, officers learned that Hopkins

may have worked as a youth pastor in Midlothian, College Station and Baytown, Texas prior to his arrest.

During the investigation of Clinton Brian Harvey, officers learned that Harvey worked as an officer at the Montgomery County Juvenile Detention Center.

As our children are more exposed to the internet than ever before, the ICAC section of the Montgomery County District Attorney's Office and the Houston Metro ICAC Task Force encourage parents to be diligent in monitoring their children's online activities and raise concerns with law enforcement agencies and the National Center for to report Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC). Concerned parents and guardians should contact local law enforcement in the event of an emergency by dialing 911. Parents and guardians can also contact NCMEC at 1-800-THE-LOST (1-800-843-5678) or through their website at CyberTipline.org for more information and resources.

Lt. Michael Atkins, Montgomery County Constable's Office Precinct 3, shared: "The Internet provides criminals with an often unsupervised avenue to exploit child sacrifice. As parents, we need to carefully monitor our children's online activities and talk to them about the dangers they may face online."

Shanna Redwine (MCDAO), Head of Special Victims Division, stated: "We know the internet can be a dangerous place for children. The Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force and the Montgomery County District Attorney's Office are committed to making it legally dangerous for adults who seek to harm them. We ask parents and carers to support us in this effort by closely monitoring children and speaking with them about online risks, of which there are many."

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I am looking forward to this legislation passing. Again, I emphasize that anything to protect our children is crucial.

Mr. Speaker, there are thousands of children exploited on the internet each and every day. As the global online community continues to grow, so do the very real dangers facing our Nation's children.

I do want to state that Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ has really developed this legislation and worked very hard on it. We have applauded her work starting in 2008. This will be a major, if you will, addition and asset to fighting the scourge that goes against our innocent children.

So we have developed a vast and effective program that has continued to evolve and improve our fight against online child exploitation. Let's continue this program. We cannot allow this program to die. We must pass the PROTECT Our Children Act to reauthorize these task forces and to allow them to continue their brave and crucial work that keeps our children safe.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ) who has worked so hard on this legislation since 2008.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the bill before the House today because at this very moment, thousands of children are waiting to be saved.

The internet can be a dangerous neighborhood for anyone, but especially vulnerable children. The ever-expanding reach of the internet has

fueled an exploding multibillion-dollar market for child pornography.

Tragically, this market exploits the graphic images that result from the horrific sexual assault of more children. The pandemic only exacerbated the problem, as our world shifts more online.

But these are not just heinous online images, they are crime scene photos created by a thriving industry that uses children as sexual commodities.

Almost 15 years ago, I introduced the Providing Resources, Officers, and Technology to Eradicate Cyber Threats to Our Children Act of 2007. With the support of Mr. JORDAN at a House Judiciary hearing on that bill, we heard from a very brave young woman, Alicia Kozakiewicz. She was abducted by an internet predator at just 13, held captive in his dungeon basement, and sexually tortured for 4 days.

The FBI found Alicia because the Virginia Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, or ICAC, had the technology to lift the digital fingerprints of this perpetrator's crimes.

They were able to discover the location where he held her captive, chained to the floor, connected to a collar around her neck. Internet crimes officers tracked the IP address back to his door, and literally rescued her from death.

I remember her testimony like it was yesterday. It moved many of the members of that committee, including myself, to tears.

In the 20 years since her abduction and torture, Alicia still shares her personal nightmare to help protect other young people.

Over that next year, we learned a lot about these offenders: who they are, how they operate, and most important, where they are. We saw detailed law enforcement maps that showed the locations of hundreds of thousands of sexual predators, 5 percent of whom had actual child victims waiting to be rescued.

It was a truly harrowing environment they described.

And Congress acted.

With then-Senator Joe Biden as my Senate partner, we passed legislation establishing the National Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force Program, or ICAC, a specialized group of law enforcement officials dedicated to the protection of children.

The task forces grew from 42 to 61, and arrests and child rescues doubled. They doubled. Literally thousands more predators were apprehended and children rescued. An untold number of sexual assaults were prevented.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Florida.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, the PROTECT Our Children Act, the bipartisan legislation that I introduced this week with Senator CORNYN, and Representatives CHABOT,

KUSTER, and RESCHENTHALER reauthorizes the National Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force Program, the national network of coordinated law enforcement task forces investigating and prosecuting those who sexually exploit our most vulnerable constituents—our children.

According to estimates, half of the arrests made by ICAC teams led us to the door of a hands-on offender, and thus, a child waiting to be rescued.

We must make the protection of these children the focus of all of our efforts. Please think about these precious children being victimized. If you are a parent, God forbid, it was your own child.

Let's give these ICAC teams the resources they need to rescue as many as possible.

An impressive and deeply troubling investigation by The New York Times described the forces arrayed against these ICAC teams as an "insatiable criminal underworld," and one in which tech companies are not always able or totally willing to confront.

□ 1600

But if we empower these ICACs with today's reauthorization, thousands more innocent children will be protected from these unspeakable crimes. We owe them that.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues for their indulgence.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to support S. 4834, PROTECT Our Children Act of 2022.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 4834, the "PROTECT Our Children Act of 2022," a critical piece of bipartisan legislation that would reauthorize the Internet Crimes Against Children task force program, or "ICAC," which has worked tirelessly for 14 years to protect our children from online predators.

It is no exaggeration to say the internet is today one of the most dangerous places for our nation's children, many of whom spend hours each day online. Predators use social media and other online resources to groom and entice children to commit sexual acts. The internet makes it easy for sex and labor traffickers to gain clandestine access to children and teens, recruit them into their organizations, and exploit them.

The internet is also the primary vehicle for distributing child sex abuse material and committing criminal acts of sextortion against minors. It also provides an open forum for cyberbullying and online harassment, which can lead victims of such conduct to withdraw, become depressed, and even commit suicide.

To combat these monstrous crimes and protect our youth from exploitation, ICAC task forces work with federal, state, and local law enforcement to develop an effective, holistic response to cybercrimes against children. Their programs include forensic and investigative components, training and technical assistance, victim services, and community education.

The ICAC network is made up of 61 separate task forces—three of which are in my home state of Texas. These ICAC task forces were created and authorized by the original PROTECT Our Children Act of 2008, which

expired this past September, at the end of the fiscal year.

Yet online threats to children, and the need for ICAC's task forces, are only growing. Between 2008 and 2021, the number of ICAC arrests rose from 2,500 to more than 10,000 each year. ICAC's work resulted in more than 137,000 investigations and 90,300 forensic exams in 2021 alone.

Earlier this year, the Southern Texas ICAC task force received significant funding—its first—authorized by the PROTECT Our Children Act, allowing it to provide substantial investigative, prosecutorial, and victim-centered services, and to utilize tips from the national ICAC database, and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, to identify and rescue child victims.

But the work of the task force, and that of the other ICAC task forces nationwide, will not be able to continue unless we fund this critical law enforcement initiative. It is, therefore, essential that we reauthorize the ICAC program by passing the bipartisan PROTECT Our Children Act of 2022.

The Act would extend funding for ICAC task forces and programs through 2024. Without this crucial legislation, our children will remain vulnerable to those who seek to exploit and hurt them in the most horrific of ways, with the ease and anonymity the internet provides.

I commend my colleague, Representative WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, for her work on the PROTECT Our Children Act, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 4834.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. MOORE of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

PATENTS FOR HUMANITY ACT OF 2022

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 5796) to amend title 35, United States Code, to establish a competition to award certificates that can be redeemed to accelerate certain matters at the Patent and Trademark Office, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the Senate amendment is as follows:

Senate amendment:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Patents for Humanity Act of 2022".

SEC. 2. AWARD OF CERTIFICATES TO ACCELERATE CERTAIN MATTERS AT THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE.

(a) AWARD.—Chapter 2 of title 35, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“§28. Award of certificates to accelerate certain matters at the Patent and Trademark Office

“(a) *DEFINITION.*—In this section, the term ‘eligible entity’ means an entity that—

“(1) submits an application under subsection (d) for a patent that addresses a humanitarian issue; and

“(2) meets the requirements specified by the Director.

“(b) *ESTABLISHMENT.*—There is established a competition, to be held not less frequently than biennially, to award eligible entities certificates that can be redeemed to accelerate one of the following matters:

“(1) An *ex parte* reexamination proceeding, including 1 appeal to the Patent Trial and Appeal Board from that proceeding.

“(2) An application for a patent, including 1 appeal to the Patent Trial and Appeal Board from that application.

“(3) An appeal to the Patent Trial and Appeal Board of a claim twice rejected in a patent application or reissue application or finally rejected in an *ex parte* reexamination, without accelerating the underlying matter that generated the appeal.

“(4) A matter identified by the Director.

“(c) *ADMINISTRATION.*—The Director shall administer the competition established under subsection (b).

“(d) *APPLICATION.*—An entity seeking an award under subsection (b) shall submit to the Director an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Director may require.

“(e) *PROMOTION OF COMPETITION.*—The Director shall promote the competition established under subsection (b) through the satellite offices established pursuant to section 1.

“(f) *TREATMENT AS SUCCESSOR.*—The competition established under subsection (b) shall be treated as a successor to the Patents for Humanity Program (established in the notice entitled ‘Humanitarian Awards Pilot Program’, published at 77 Fed. Reg. 6544 (February 8, 2012)).”.

“(b) *RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.*—Nothing in this section, or the amendments made by this section, may be construed as affecting any action taken by the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office before the date of enactment of this Act with respect to the administration of the Patents for Humanity Program established in the notice entitled ‘Humanitarian Awards Pilot Program’, published at 77 Fed. Reg. 6544 (February 8, 2012).

“(c) *TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.*—The table of sections for chapter 2 of title 35, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“28. Award of certificates to accelerate certain matters at the Patent and Trademark Office.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. JORDAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the Senate amendment to H.R. 5796.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Senate amendment to H.R. 5796 which codifies a competition at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office called Patents for Humanity. The Patents for Humanity program highlights the ways that innovation and intellectual property help solve global humanitarian challenges. I applaud Representatives JEFFRIES and SPARTZ for spearheading this bill in order to ensure that special recognition permanently extends to inventors who turn their genius toward allaying or helping the world’s most needy and vulnerable.

The Senate amendment does away with the need for extra rulemaking before the competition can continue its operation, and, as such, is a welcome addition to help streamline the bill.

The operative provisions of the bill will make permanent the Patents for Humanity awards program which encourages the development and use of inventions that address humanitarian needs in the fields of medicine, nutrition, sanitation, household energy, and living standards for impoverished people. Winning inventors are recognized in a public awards ceremony and receive a certificate that can be used to accelerate certain examination proceedings at the USPTO.

Since 2012, the USPTO has recognized numerous award recipients across a wide range of technologies. The recipients have invented groundbreaking technologies that greatly improve the standard of living for so many people in need in the United States and around the world.

The bill also builds on the work of Representative MCBATH who successfully led a bipartisan effort to pass legislation in the last Congress strengthening the program. That law allowed the awards certificate to be transferrable if the award recipient would prefer to seek its free-market value rather than accelerate a different patent application.

Today, we are going a step further by ensuring that this program is a permanent feature of our innovation ecosystem.

In Congress, we strive to make sure that our intellectual property laws incentivize innovation to the greatest extent possible, but this category of humanitarian inventions will always deserve special recognition. H.R. 5796, as amended in the Senate, will make sure that it will.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support it, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office established the Patents for Humanity program as a pilot program in 2012 to recognize noteworthy inventions that address humanitarian problems.

The program has honored inventions relating to water purification, infectious diseases, crop yields, and infant mortality, among others. Winners are

awarded certificates that grant acceleration of certain matters before the USPTO, such as examination of a future patent application.

The Patents for Humanity program provides an incentive to encourage innovation in areas important to addressing humanitarian needs of today and the future. It does this without costing taxpayers a penny and without the need to raise user fees at the PTO. This is a very important distinction.

This bill would also allow this successful pilot program to continue as a congressionally approved program. The Senate version of this bill on the floor today is almost identical to the version the House passed this past spring with just a few minor changes.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 5796 is a straightforward but important bill that will encourage additional innovations that address humanitarian needs both in the U.S. and abroad.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Senate amendment to H.R. 5796, which codifies a competition at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office called “Patents for Humanity.” The Patents for Humanity program highlights the ways that innovation and intellectual property help solve global humanitarian challenges.

I applaud Representatives JEFFRIES and SPARTZ for spearheading this bill in order to ensure that special recognition permanently extends to inventors who turn their genius towards helping the world’s most needy and vulnerable.

The Senate amendment does away with the need for extra rulemaking before the competition can continue its operation, and as such, is a welcome addition to help streamline this bill. The operative provisions of the bill will make permanent the Patents for Humanity awards program, which encourages the development and use of inventions that address humanitarian needs in the fields of medicine, nutrition, sanitation, household energy, and living standards for impoverished people. Winning inventors are recognized in a public awards ceremony and receive a certificate that can be used to accelerate certain examination proceedings at the USPTO.

Since 2012, the USPTO has recognized numerous award recipients across a wide range of technologies. The recipients have invented groundbreaking technologies that greatly improve the standard of living for so many people in need in the United States and around the world.

This bill also builds on the work of Representative MCBATH, who successfully led a bipartisan effort to pass legislation in the last Congress strengthening the program. That law allowed the awards certificate to be transferable if the award recipient would prefer to seek its free market value rather than accelerate a different patent application.

Today, we are going a step further by ensuring that this program is a permanent feature of our innovation ecosystem.

In Congress, we strive to make sure that our intellectual property laws incentivize innovation to the greatest extent possible, but this

category of humanitarian inventions will always deserve special recognition. H.R. 5796, as amended in the Senate, makes sure that it will, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill, H.R. 5796.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mr. MOORE of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

EARLY HEARING DETECTION AND INTERVENTION ACT OF 2022

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 4052) to reauthorize a program for early detection, diagnosis, and treatment regarding deaf and hard-of-hearing newborns, infants, and young children, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 4052

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Act of 2022”.

SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF PROGRAM FOR EARLY DETECTION, DIAGNOSIS, AND TREATMENT REGARDING DEAF AND HARD-OF-HEARING NEWBORNS, INFANTS, AND YOUNG CHILDREN.

Section 399M of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280g-1) is amended—

(1) in subsection (e), by inserting “(3)” before “The term ‘medical evaluation’”; and

(2) in subsection (f)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “\$17,818,000 for fiscal year 2018, \$18,173,800 for fiscal year 2019, \$18,628,145 for fiscal year 2020, \$19,056,592 for fiscal year 2021, and \$19,522,758 for fiscal year 2022” and inserting “\$17,818,000 for each of fiscal years 2023 through 2027”; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking “\$10,800,000 for fiscal year 2018, \$11,026,800 for fiscal year 2019, \$11,302,470 for fiscal year 2020, \$11,562,427 for fiscal year 2021, and \$11,851,488 for fiscal year 2022” and inserting “\$10,760,000 for each of fiscal years 2023 through 2027”.

SEC. 3. GAO STUDY ON STATE EARLY HEARING DETECTION AND INTERVENTION PROGRAMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study reviewing State early hearing detection and intervention (in this section referred to as “EHDI”) programs. Such study shall—

(1) analyze how information collected through such programs informs what is known about EHDI activities to ensure that newborns, infants, and young children have access to timely hearing screenings and early interventions, including information on any disparities in such access;

(2) analyze what is known about how parents use State EHDI websites to seek health

and programmatic guidance related to their child’s hearing loss diagnosis; and

(3) identify efforts and any promising practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Health Resources and Services Administration, the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders, and State EHDI programs—

(A) to address disparities in outreach for, or access to, timely hearing screenings and early interventions; and

(B) to ensure that EHDI follow-up services are communicated and made available to medically underserved populations, including racial and ethnic minorities.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall—

(1) complete the study under subsection (a) and submit a report on the results of the study to—

(A) the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives; and

(B) the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate; and

(2) make such report publicly available.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on S. 4052.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of S. 4052, the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Act. Last year, we passed the House version of this bill, H.R. 5561, which was sponsored by Health Subcommittee Ranking Member GUTHRIE and Representative MATSUI. I thank both of them for their leadership on this issue.

Over the last 20 years, Mr. Speaker, we have been very successful in addressing one of the most common birth defects affecting America’s children: congenital hearing loss. Children with this condition are born with hearing loss and are at risk for delays in speech, language, social, and emotional development.

Fortunately, early detection and intervention is highly effective in preventing these adverse effects.

Since 2000, Congress has passed and subsequently reauthorized Early Hearing Detection and Intervention programs, also known as EHDI programs. These programs support State and territory programs and systems of care to identify and support children who are deaf or hard of hearing. Thanks to these programs, early hearing loss screening, diagnosis, and treatment services have greatly increased over the last two decades.

Consider that before 1993, only 1 in 10 newborns were screened for hearing

loss. Today, according to data from the Centers for Disease and Prevention, 97 percent of all infants are screened within the first month of their lives. Furthermore, 60 percent of infants receive audiological evaluations and diagnosis by 3 months of age, and 72 percent of infants were enrolled in early intervention services before they are 6 months old. These are remarkable achievements that help ensure all children with hearing loss have the same opportunities as children who can hear.

Today, we are considering a bill that will help us build on these achievements. S. 4052, the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Act, would extend critical funding for EHDI programs for 5 years through fiscal year 2027. This legislation will ensure that these services continue to be available for children who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support this bipartisan bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 4052, the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Act, the companion legislation to H.R. 5561 sponsored by Energy and Commerce Committee members, Representatives Guthrie and Matsui.

S. 4052 is very similar to the legislation that passed the House 410-17, and I hope in the upcoming vote it will receive even more “yes” votes.

Hearing loss in children continues to be all too prevalent in the United States. According to recent CDC data, almost 15 percent of children aged 6 to 19 experience either low- or high-frequency hearing loss in one or both ears.

The Early Hearing Detection and Intervention program, administered through the CDC and the Health Resources and Services Agency, has helped providers to quickly identify babies and young children who are born deaf or hard of hearing, which has led to improved health outcomes and brought hope to so many families.

S. 4052 reauthorizes Federal support for these important statewide programs that help early detection, diagnosis, and treatment of deaf and hard-of-hearing newborns, infants, and young children through 2027.

This bill will help redouble our efforts to truly open the world of communication to children who experiencing hearing loss.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, again, I urge all Members to vote for this on a bipartisan basis and mention that when it passes today that it will go to the President’s desk.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by

the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 4052.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mr. MOORE of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays. The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

CARDIOVASCULAR ADVANCES IN RESEARCH AND OPPORTUNITIES LEGACY ACT

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 1193) to amend title IV of the Public Health Service Act to direct the Director of the National Institutes of Health, in consultation with the Director of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, to establish a program under which the Director of the National Institutes of Health shall support or conduct research on valvular heart disease, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the Senate amendment is as follows:

Senate amendment:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Cardiovascular Advances in Research and Opportunities Legacy Act".

SEC. 2. HHS VALVULAR HEART DISEASE ACTIVITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services (referred to in this section as the "Secretary") shall, as appropriate, continue activities related to research, education, and awareness of valvular heart diseases.

(b) NIH RESEARCH RELATED TO VALVULAR HEART DISEASES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the National Institutes of Health, in consultation with the Director of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, may support or conduct research regarding valvular heart diseases.

(2) SUPPORT FURTHER RESEARCH.—In order to improve information on, and understanding of, causation and risk factors for valvular heart diseases, research conducted or supported under this subsection for such diseases may include the following:

(A) Use of advanced technological imaging and other relevant methods to generate data related to valvular heart diseases.

(B) Assessing potential risk factors for sudden cardiac arrest or sudden cardiac death from valvular heart diseases.

(C) Other activities, as appropriate, in order to improve the availability of information on, and advance research related to, valvular heart diseases.

(3) MITRAL VALVE PROLAPSE WORKSHOP.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute shall, as appropriate, convene a workshop composed of subject matter experts and stakeholders to identify research needs and opportunities to develop recommendations for the identification and treatment of individuals with mitral valve prolapse, including such individuals who may be at risk for sudden cardiac arrest or sudden cardiac death.

(c) PREVENTION ACTIVITIES TO IMPROVE AWARENESS OF SUDDEN CARDIAC DEATH AS A RESULT OF VALVULAR HEART DISEASES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may carry out activities to increase education and awareness of valvular heart diseases in order to reduce the incidence of sudden cardiac death caused by such diseases. The Secretary may—

(A) award grants or contracts to public or nonprofit private entities to carry out activities under this subsection; and

(B) directly, or through grants or contracts, provide technical assistance with respect to such activities.

(2) CERTAIN ACTIVITIES.—Upon availability of applicable data, projects carried out under paragraph (1) may include—

(A) continuing activities at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention related to valvular heart diseases;

(B) improving the awareness of the public concerning any risk factors for, the symptoms of, and the public health impact of, valvular heart diseases; and

(C) enhancing public health data collection and improving the quality of such data, as appropriate, regarding cardiac arrests, including cardiac arrests that occur outside of the hospital.

(3) GRANT PRIORITIZATION.—The Secretary may, in awarding grants or entering into contracts pursuant to paragraph (1), give priority to entities seeking to carry out projects for populations most impacted by valvular heart diseases.

(4) COORDINATION OF ACTIVITIES.—The Secretary shall, as appropriate, ensure that activities under this section are coordinated with other agencies and offices of the Department of Health and Human Services that carry out activities regarding valvular heart diseases.

(5) BEST PRACTICES.—The Secretary shall, as applicable and appropriate, identify and disseminate best practices for relevant health care providers related to valvular heart diseases.

(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—For purposes of carrying out this section, there are authorized to be appropriated \$28,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2023 through 2027.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1193.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, 1 year ago, the House passed the CAROL Act by voice vote. I am pleased the Senate finally considered the legislation and worked to keep it in a bipartisan bill.

Valvular heart disease is a growing issue in our country. It is a condition where one of the heart's four valves is damaged and does not regulate blood properly. Nearly 25,000 Americans die each year from complications caused by valvular heart disease. Yet, we do not know much about it. This bill will bring us closer to finding answers.

The CAROL Act expands research on valvular heart disease at the National

Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute with the goal of generating data and assessing potential risk factors associated with valvular heart disease. This bill convenes a workshop of experts to collaborate and develop recommendations for the identification and treatment of individuals who are at risk of sudden cardiac death caused by valvular heart disease. The bill also supports education efforts at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to increase awareness of valvular heart disease and reduce the risk of sudden cardiac death.

I commend our colleague, Representative BARR, for leading this legislation in honor of his late wife, Carol, who passed unexpectedly due to an underlying valvular heart disease condition. I hope that this legislation will help avoid similar tragedies for other families across the Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation and join us in honoring the life of Carol Barr.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1193, the Cardiovascular Advances and Opportunities Legacy Act, or the CAROL Act. I am excited that we are going to pass this legislation and send it to the President's desk.

Our friend and colleague, Representative ANDY BARR, introduced the CAROL Act to honor his late wife who tragically passed away from an underlying condition known as mitral valve prolapse.

The bill authorizes grants administered by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute to support research on valvular heart disease and convene subject matter experts to identify research opportunities to develop treatment guidelines for patients with valvular heart diseases. It also instructs the CDC to increase public awareness regarding symptoms of valvular heart disease and effective strategies for preventing sudden cardiac death.

□ 1615

Heart disease continues to be the leading cause of death for most demographic groups in the United States. Over 600,000 Americans die from heart disease each year. This is equal to one person every 36 seconds.

We know that early action is critical to surviving a heart condition. People need to know warning signs and symptoms, so we must identify the gaps in education and information sharing.

This bill also has been a model in terms of how legislation should be done. It was the subject of a hearing at the Energy and Commerce Committee, was voted on by the subcommittee and full committee, and then passed by the entire House. The Senate then also moved it through the committee process and made some improvements to the legislation in consultation with

House sponsors and the Energy and Commerce Committee. Last week, the Senate voted to send the updated legislation back here to the House.

This regular order process only improved this important legislation, and I urge all of my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to my colleague from Kentucky (Mr. BARR).

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues for their support of this legislation.

I rise today in support of an issue obviously that is very near and dear to my heart, our legislation, the Cardiovascular Advances in Research and Opportunities Legacy Act, or the CAROL Act, named after my late wife, Carol Leavell Barr.

Mr. Speaker, my life changed forever, and the lives of my daughters and Carol's family and friends' lives changed forever, when we lost her, my best friend, to sudden cardiac arrest on June 16, 2020. She was only 39 years old.

At a young age, Carol was diagnosed with an underlying condition called mitral valve prolapse, or floppy valve syndrome, a typically benign condition that results in sudden cardiac death in only 0.2 percent of cases.

We were told that this was no big deal, so there was no cause for alarm for most of her adult life. We knew about her condition, but it was not cause for alarm. Even her doctors were not alarmed by the condition because of the very low incidence of sudden cardiac death with this.

The end of her life didn't define her life. I want to just share a little bit. I mean, obviously, this is a picture of her. She was beautiful, inside and out. She had an amazing smile. She was smart. She was fun. She was accomplished professionally.

Ironically, she was in pharmaceutical sales, and she was in the cardiovascular space. Her motivation and willingness to give back to the American Heart Association and charity, a lot of that had to do with the fact that she was aware that she had this underlying preexisting heart condition.

She was an organized list maker. She would always say: Let's just get it done.

She loved to read, travel, and cook for her family.

She loved Kentucky. She loved the Kentucky Derby, horses, and her beloved Wildcats.

She loved her country, and she loved her family. She loved her friends and especially our girls, and that was her gift: motherhood. Motherhood was her gift.

She was a selfless giver to them, to me, to all of her friends, and we have gratitude in our grief. We have gratitude for the 39 wonderful years we did have with her.

We miss her terribly, but we are grateful and blessed that we now have this to extend and amplify her legacy, this bill that is going to help save lives, so her selfless giving goes on. I thank all my colleagues for helping advance this.

Since this was such a rare situation where someone would die of MVP, what were the factors that put Carol in the 0.2 percent versus the 99.8 percent category? That was the question that I had after her passing.

In my discussions with top cardiologists, medical experts, researchers, and advocates following her passing, I learned the extent to which the medical community seriously lacked the answers to that critical question.

Sadly, over 25,000 of our fellow American citizens die each year from heart valve disease, primarily due to underdiagnosis and undertreatment of the condition, which was obviously the case with our Carol.

Inspired by her extraordinary life, my family and I decided to take action and introduce the CAROL Act to better equip our medical community with the resources needed to develop predictive models, inform communities, and possibly save the lives of other loved ones.

Specifically, the CAROL Act authorizes a grant program administered by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute to support research on valvular heart disease, including MVP.

This legislation marshals the full power of 21st century medical innovation and encourages the utilization of technical imaging and precision medicine to generate data on individuals with valvular heart disease.

It is through this research, Mr. Speaker, that we can help identify Americans like Carol at high risk of sudden cardiac death from valvular heart disease and develop prediction models for high-risk patients, enabling interventions and treatment plans to keep these patients healthy throughout their lives.

Additionally, the CAROL Act will instruct the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to increase public awareness regarding the symptoms of valvular heart disease and effective strategies for preventing sudden cardiac death.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful and honored that the CAROL Act earned the bipartisan cosponsorship of 180 Members of this body.

I am grateful for so many others. I am grateful for Congresswoman KATHLEEN RICE from New York, who I worked with in a bipartisan way on the Energy and Commerce Committee. Obviously, Dr. Joyce was a powerful spokesperson for this legislation in committee. I appreciate Chairman PALLONE's partnership in this. Ranking Member CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS and my colleague from Kentucky who was friends with Carol, BRETT GUTHRIE, they really contributed mightily to this.

My friends KEVIN MCCARTHY, STEVE SCALISE, BRAD WENSTRUP, and BILL

HUIZENGA, they really helped us push it forward.

I thank STENY HOYER, who himself lost his wife at a young age, and I think he really helped push this forward.

In the Senate, Leader MITCH MCCONNELL obviously knew Carol very well, and his wife, Elaine Chao, was good friends with Carol. He was really instrumental in pushing it through the Senate.

Arizona Senator KYRSTEN SINEMA lost a sister to a condition similar to Carol's, and she was our lead Democrat in the Senate. I just saw Kyrsten in the airport. She gave me a big hug to celebrate this great day.

Finally, I thank Claire Osborn of my staff, who worked tirelessly on this bill and made it a personal cause of hers. We would not be here today without her tireless efforts.

The American Heart Association, the American College of Cardiology, WomenHeart, Edwards Lifesciences, and over 20 additional medical groups that supported our bill, I thank them for their advocacy.

Carol's greatest legacy will always be our two beautiful daughters, Eleanor and Mary Clay. However, today, I hope that my colleagues in the House will help me enshrine her legacy in a way that helps others avert the tragedy that has profoundly impacted our family.

We thank all of our colleagues for helping advance this legislation, and we are so grateful for the continued extraordinary legacy of Carol Barr.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I urge all of our colleagues to support this bill, the legacy of Carol Barr, which will go to the President once it is adopted today.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill, H.R. 1193.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the Senate amendment was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 1 of House Resolution 1230, the House stands adjourned until 9 a.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon (at 4 o'clock and 23 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, December 6, 2022, at 9 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS,
ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-6071. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) Medication-Assisted Treatment for Recovery from Addiction report to Congress for fiscal year 2022, pursuant to 21 U.S.C. 823 note; Public Law 114-198, Sec. 303(a)(3)(A)(ii); (130 Stat. 722); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-6072. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the stabilization of Iraq that was declared in Executive Order 13303 of May 22, 2003, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec. 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-6073. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to serious human rights abuse and corruption that was declared in Executive Order 13818 of December 20, 2017, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec. 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-6074. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a memorandum of justification of a drawdown under section 506(a)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-6075. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's FY 2022 Agency Financial Report, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3515(a)(1); Public Law 101-576, Sec. 303(a)(1) (as amended by Public Law 107-289, Sec. 2(a)); (116 Stat. 2049); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC-6076. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's Office of Inspector General's semiannual report for the period of April 1 through September 30, 2022., pursuant to 38 U.S.C. 116; Added by Public Law 106-419, title IV, Sec. 403(d)(1)(A); (114 Stat. 1864); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC-6077. A letter from the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's Office of Inspector General Semiannual Report to Congress, covering the period ending September 30, 2022; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC-6078. A letter from the Chairman and Chief Executive and Administrative Officer, Federal Labor Relations Authority, transmitting the 68th Semiannual Report of the Federal Labor Relations Authority (FLRA) Inspector General for the period April 1, 2022 through October 31, 2022; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC-6079. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator for Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting the Agency's annual financial report for Fiscal Year 2022; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC-6080. A letter from the Chairman, United States International Trade Commission, transmitting the Commission's Agency Financial Report for FY 2022, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3515(a)(1); Public Law 101-576, Sec. 303(a)(1) (as amended by Public Law 107-289, Sec. 2(a)); (116 Stat. 2049); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Ms. CASTOR of Florida:

H.R. 9424. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize grants for graduate medical education partnerships in States with a low ratio of medical residents relative to the general population; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. ESPAILLAT (for himself, Ms. CLARKE of New York, and Mr. CARSON):

H.R. 9425. A bill to amend the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 to require congressional notification if relatives or financial associates of the President are granted security clearances contrary to the advice or recommendation of a background investigation or determination of an adjudicating agency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. GOHMERT (for himself and Mr. GOSAR):

H.R. 9426. A bill to prohibit the use of Federal funds made available for foreign assistance to be used to support drag theater performances; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania (for himself, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. PARNETTA, and Mr. DUNN):

H.R. 9427. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to permanently extend certain in-home cardiopulmonary rehabilitation flexibilities established in response to COVID-19, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LYNCH:

H.R. 9428. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Education to make grants to local educational agencies to assist certain individuals in reentering a secondary school or a general educational development program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mrs. MCCLAIN (for herself and Ms. FOX):

H.R. 9429. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to direct the Secretary of Education to publish requirements for financial aid offers to be provided by institutions of higher education to enrolled and prospective students, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY
STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Ms. CASTOR of Florida:

H.R. 9424.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

As described in Article 1, Section 1, "all legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives."

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the Constitution provides Congress with the author-

ity to "provide for the common Defense and general Welfare" of Americans.

By Mr. ESPAILLAT:

H.R. 9425.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 5 of Amendment XIV of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. GOHMERT:

H.R. 9426.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 section 8 Clause 1

By Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 9427.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. LYNCH:

H.R. 9428.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section VIII, Clause XVIII

By Mrs. MCCLAIN:

H.R. 9429.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 18: Mr. FINSTAD.

H.R. 851: Mr. CÁRDENAS.

H.R. 1735: Mr. COHEN and Mr. SCHIFF.

H.R. 2252: Mr. LEVIN of California.

H.R. 2794: Mr. SUOZZI and Mr. COURTNEY.

H.R. 2820: Mr. SWALWELL and Mr. RYAN of New York.

H.R. 3085: Ms. PRESSLEY.

H.R. 3172: Ms. KUSTER.

H.R. 3400: Ms. MANNING.

H.R. 3941: Ms. BONAMICI.

H.R. 4151: Mr. FALLON, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. KATKO, and Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia.

H.R. 4198: Ms. MANNING.

H.R. 4371: Ms. BARRAGÁN.

H.R. 5232: Ms. PLASKETT, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, and Ms. BONAMICI.

H.R. 5245: Ms. LEE of California.

H.R. 6402: Ms. MANNING.

H.R. 7382: Mr. RYAN of New York and Ms. STEVENS.

H.R. 7477: Mr. EMMER and Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.

H.R. 7620: Mr. LYNCH.

H.R. 7775: Mr. SOTO.

H.R. 7944: Mr. PASCRELL.

H.R. 8004: Mr. FALLON.

H.R. 8105: Ms. LOFGREN.

H.R. 8246: Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. HIMES, Mr. GALLAGHER, and Mr. WITTMAN.

H.R. 8532: Mr. MFUME.

H.R. 8568: Ms. LOFGREN.

H.R. 8643: Ms. MENG.

H.R. 8654: Mr. ALLRED, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. SMITH of Washington, and Mr. CICILLINE.

H.R. 8708: Mr. PETERS.

H.R. 8774: Ms. MANNING.

H.R. 9049: Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. LANGEVIN, and Mr. BABIN.

H.R. 9051: Mrs. HARTZLER.

H.R. 9104: Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mrs. KIM of California, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. PALLONE, Ms. SPANBERGER,

Mr. CARSON, and Mr. HIMES.

H.R. 9187: Mr. CARSON.

H.R. 9243: Mr. BERA, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. MEEKS, and Mr. CICILLINE.

H.R. 9300: Ms. BONAMICI.

H.R. 9339: Mr. FITZPATRICK.

H.R. 9355: Mr. CORREA.

H.R. 9374: Mr. VARGAS and Ms. BASS.	H.J. Res. 53: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of	H. Con. Res. 113: Mr. SCHIFF and Mr.
H.R. 9382: Mr. COLE.	New York.	ALLRED.
H.R. 9398: Ms. MALLIOTAKIS and Mr. SMITH	H.J. Res. 87: Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ.	H. Res. 1432: Mr. LAMB.
of New Jersey.	H. Con. Res. 65: Ms. KUSTER.	H. Res. 1481: Mr. CICILLINE and Mr.
H.R. 9423: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.		SWALWELL.



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Senate

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal God, we come today seeking a deeper understanding of Your ways. Life often seems like a difficult riddle, but in spite of its challenges, You sustain us with Your majesty and love.

Lord, forgive us when we think too often of ourselves and forget the pain of those around us. Make us willing to pay the price for freedom.

We bring to You the Members of this legislative body. Empower them to bear the weight of responsibility. Give them the desire to honor You. Lord, fill their hearts with gratitude for the unfolding of Your prevailing providence. Evaporate their fears like the morning mist.

We pray in Your powerful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Frances Kay Behm, of Michigan, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PETERS). The Republican leader is recognized.

BORDER SECURITY

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, 2 years into the Biden administration, the Democrats' approach to illegal immigration and our Nation's borders has failed the American people.

Last week, one news organization reported that daily crossings along our southern border have remained near record highs. Last fiscal year alone, more than 2.76 million illegal immigrants came across our southern border, absolutely smashing the previous record-high by more than a million. That is almost the equivalent of a full 1 percent of our total national population encountered on our southern border in just 1 year. The problem actually keeps getting worse. Reported estimates say that more than 73,000 new "got-aways" dodged Border Patrol and escaped into our country in just this past November alone.

Absurdly, the response to this crisis from President Biden's team is that everything is fine—everything is fine—and going according to plan. Secretary Mayorkas said last month, "What we are doing is precisely what we announced we would do in April of this year, and we have indeed been executing on the plan."

Now, everybody else in the country calls our functionally open borders an emergency and a crisis, but apparently

the Biden administration calls it mission accomplished. And bear in mind, the terrible and unacceptable status quo has come with some emergency COVID measures still in place. All the crisis-level numbers I just ran through have come with these extra border controls—called title 42—actually still in effect.

Now, one Federal judge is trying to force the Biden administration to do what the far left has wanted for months and actually repeal the policy. So the unacceptable crisis-level status quo may only be the warmup act compared to coming attractions. One immigration expert told a reporter, "It is definitely, at least in the short run, going to result in many, many more people being released into the United States." Congressman GONZALES, who represents Texas's 23rd District, says it would be a "hurricane" for border communities.

Of course, the Biden administration officials who claim they have a plan to cope with the removal of title 42 are the same people who brought us record-breaking illegal immigration even with it in place. So make no mistake, a choice between the current border situation with title 42 and an even worse situation without title 42 is a choice between a disaster and a catastrophe.

Democrats need to stop shuffling deck chairs on the Titanic and start looking to the tough, proven, successful policies that allowed the preceding administration to get a handle on the issue, and they need to drop the forgiving attitude to illegal immigration that draws more and more men, women, and children on the dangerous journey to our border every single day. It is inexcusable that the Biden administration cares more about getting protested by far-left activists than they do about providing a basic level of order and security.

Everyone knows what steps would improve the situation. The playbook from the prior administration is right

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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there. All the Democrats need to do is pick it up.

CAROL ACT

Mr. President, now on a different matter, 2 years ago Kentucky, mourned the sudden tragic loss of our friend Carol Leavell Barr.

At only 39 years old, Carol suffered a fatal heart attack likely caused by an illness known as valvular heart disease. She left behind two young daughters and our distinguished colleague, Congressman ANDY BARR. Carol Barr led an extraordinary life, devoted to serving others.

Last year, Congressman BARR channeled his grief into action and wrote the Cardiovascular Advances in Research and Opportunities Legacy, or CAROL, Act. I introduced a companion bill in the Senate alongside the senior Senator from Arizona, and last week, the Senate passed the CAROL Act by unanimous consent, moving this legislation one step closer to becoming law.

The legislation embodies Carol Barr's humanitarian spirit. It will encourage new research into valvular heart disease and greater awareness of the illness.

Eight million Americans live with this disease, many without any apparent symptoms. Approximately 25,000 of our fellow citizens lose their lives every year, often suddenly.

The CAROL Act is dedicated to sparing other families the tragedy that hit the Barrs.

It is a fitting tribute to Carol Barr's wonderful life and legacy, and it is an important piece of legislation in its own right.

So I want to thank all my colleagues for their support. I look forward to enacting the CAROL Act into law very soon.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The majority leader is recognized.

BUSINESS BEFORE THE SENATE

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, we have 26 days left in the calendar year, and there is still a lot we have to do.

This week, the House is expected to take up the annual Defense authorization bill, priming the Senate to take action, perhaps as soon as next week.

The Senate's work on funding the government also continues. I just finished a meeting with the Republican leader about finding a constructive path forward to keep the government funded next fiscal year. Leader MCCONNELL and I have both publically affirmed the importance of getting this done, because our troops, our military, and our national security depends on it.

And this Wednesday, in fact, the Senate will hold another classified briefing

on the state of play in Ukraine, and I hope that my colleagues recognize how funding the government is inextricably tied supporting Ukraine while protecting American national security here at home. The two are tied together.

So we are going to continue negotiations until we get the job done on funding the government. Both sides recognize the importance, so now both sides must chart a path forward together.

JUDICIAL NOMINATIONS

Mr. President, on judges, the Senate is just a few confirmation votes away from reaching another milestone. Soon, we will confirm our 90th Federal judge under President Biden.

I want to thank my colleague, chair of the Judiciary Committee, Senator DURBIN for his diligence and hard work in this area of getting nominees appointed to the bench.

We vote today on judge No. 88, Doris Pryor, tapped by the President to serve as U.S. circuit judge for the Seventh Circuit. She will be the 26th—the 26th—circuit court judge the Senate confirms in the last 2 years.

These appointments are critical. Even though a conservative majority presides on the Supreme Court, the bulk of all Federal cases are still resolved by circuit court judges.

If confirmed, Judge Pryor will make history as the first woman of color from Indiana ever to sit on the Seventh Circuit. One judge at a time, the Senate continues fulfilling its mission of making sure our courts reflect the diversity and dynamism of America.

A graduate of University of Central Arkansas and Indiana School of Law, Judge Pryor served as a clerk for both the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals and for the Eastern District of Arkansas, before turning to public defense.

She has also more than a decade of experience as a Federal prosecutor, focusing on national security and prosecuting individuals who sought aid to terrorist organizations.

When not involved in donning the black robe of a jurist, Judge Pryor is deeply involved in the Indianapolis community, founding youth programs, mentoring future lawyers, and helping the formerly incarcerated to re-enter civilian life.

In short, Judge Pryor has the brains of a jurist and the heart of a public servant—a perfect combination for someone serving a lifetime appointment on the bench.

I look forward to her confirmation today, and Democrats will continue making judicial nominations a top priority in the new year.

PRESIDENT TRUMP

Mr. President, finally, Donald Trump cannot seem to go a week without doing or saying something disgusting, dishonorable, and, frankly, disqualifying for high office.

Two weeks ago, it was a dinner with a pair of loathsome anti-Semites, which to this day, he has not denounced. He says: Well, I didn't know

that one of these men, Fuentes, was coming. He still hasn't denounced him now that he knows he was there.

On Friday, he took his vile rhetoric to a new and horrible nadir when he called for the "termination" of the Constitution of the United States because he lost the 2022 election.

Aside from the pettiness and the ego of that, it is as if Donald Trump is on a mission to find new ways to sink lower and lower to the detriment of America. How can anyone hope to take the Presidential oath of office to preserve and protect the Constitution while simultaneously calling for the Constitution's termination? It is wholly disqualifying on its face.

And now that Donald Trump is being rightfully criticized for attacking the Constitution, his response is to double down and deny he ever did so in the first place rather than have the decency to own up to it.

I am glad some Republicans seem increasingly willing to condemn Trump's lunacy, but we need more voices filling the silence. We need nothing less than an avalanche of condemnation from Republicans; but, sadly, all we have gotten so far are just a few flurries here and there.

Republicans need to speak up, because if America doesn't extricate itself from Donald Trump and his MAGA ideology, it could undercut our American way of life. This isn't a partisan scuffle. When a former President calls for the termination of the U.S. Constitution, there can be no silence, no equivocation—nothing less than total and fierce condemnation.

So to my Republican colleagues, enough is enough. Reject MAGA, reject Trump, condemn these awful attacks on the U.S. Constitution.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

NOMINATION OF DORIS L. PRYOR

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, at the outset, I want to join the majority leader in his kind words related to Judge Doris Pryor, who is seeking a seat on the Seventh Circuit of Appeals.

Today, the Senate will vote to confirm Judge Doris Pryor to serve on the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals. Judge Pryor is an outstanding nominee to the appellate bench. She is a graduate of the University of Central Arkansas and the Indiana University Maurer School of Law. Following law school, she clerked for Judge Lavenski R. Smith on the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals and for Judge J. Leon Holmes on the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Arkansas.

Judge Pryor then served for a short period of time as a deputy public defender in Texarkana, AR. In 2006, she joined the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Indiana as an Assistant U.S. Attorney. During her time as a Federal prosecutor, Judge Pryor handled all types of criminal matters and argued several Federal appeals. She also served as national security chief and as the office's reentry

and prevention coordinator. In 2018, she was selected by the district judges of the Southern District of Indiana to serve as a magistrate judge, a position she holds to this day. In this role, Judge Pryor oversees a wide range of judicial proceedings in both civil and criminal matters.

She was unanimously rated “qualified” by the American Bar Association, and she has received blue slips from Senators Young and Braun, her two Republican home State Senators. She also received a bipartisan vote in the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Judge Pryor has significant Federal experience and a proven track record of neutral decision making on the bench. I strongly support her nomination, and I encourage my colleagues to do the same.

NOVEMBER JOBS REPORT

Mr. President, relating to the great news that we received Friday, the jobs report showed that our economic recovery under this President is continuing, with 263,000 jobs created during the month of November.

But more than strong numbers, what caught my attention is that there was very little response from the other side of the aisle.

Well, it is good news, and I want it to be part of the RECORD.

It is funny, it wasn't so long ago that our Republican colleagues couldn't wait for monthly jobs numbers to drop. And I can understand why: When the President took office, things were in rough shape. The pandemic was more persistent than any of us would have liked, and job growth started off slower than expected.

Back then, Republican lawmakers—like House minority leader KEVIN MCCARTHY—were the first to send out press releases slamming President Biden for the sluggish state of the economy—and downplay any economic progress.

But now, crickets. We haven't heard a word from KEVIN MCCARTHY about Friday's job numbers. Why have Republicans been so quiet? I will tell you why: The numbers are not on their side.

Since President Biden took office, the U.S. has added 10.5 million jobs—more than any administration in history at this point in a Presidency. And our unemployment rate remains near record lows. We have added more than 750,000 manufacturing jobs alone since the President took office—sectors boosted by legislation like the Chips and Science Act and the bipartisan infrastructure bill.

It is proof that the historic policies this Democratic majority has enacted over the past 2 years are working. In fact, next month, Medicare beneficiaries are going to start saving money thanks to the Inflation Reduction Act we passed this year. It is going to cap the cost of insulin at \$35 for Medicare beneficiaries starting January.

But we have got a lot more work to do, and that is why the American peo-

ple re-elected a Democratic majority in this Senate: to get things done. So let's keep the victories coming.

TRIBUTE TO JESSE WHITE

Mr. President, this is a statement I have been reluctant to make because it relates to a dear friend of mine and my fellow colleague from Illinois, Senator DUCKWORTH. I am sure what I am about to say, she agrees with completely because I have talked to her many times about the subject.

But in our State of Illinois, we are home to a select group of elected leaders who have done what many people consider to be politically impossible. It is a feat that only three elected officials have achieved in modern history: winning all 102 counties in the State of Illinois, from Cairo—as we pronounce it—all the way to Chicago.

Even more impressive, there is only one of these three leaders who has continually won by landslide margins in one election after another. His name is Jesse White.

He has served as secretary of state in Illinois for more than two decades; and, really, it is no wonder that he has won the hearts and minds of the voters across our State.

Secretary White is a rare leader: a legend and truly a humble man. He loves his work because he works for the people he loves, the people of Illinois.

Throughout his life, he has been a model of integrity, compassion, and unwavering commitment to public service. Later this month, unfortunately for us, he is going to be stepping aside from his recordbreaking sixth and final term as secretary of state.

On behalf of everyone in Illinois, I want to say thank you to one of the most beloved leaders in our State's history, my friend Jesse White.

There is a simple explanation for his unrivaled record of political success: He really cares for people. He has devoted his life to building a better State for our kids, and he radiates a warmth and sincerity to everybody he meets. And it is hard to keep up with him. Whenever Secretary White enters a room, he won't leave until he shakes every hand, whether it is a foreign dignitary or a person clearing the tables. Even cultural barriers don't hold him back. He points with pride to the fact that he can express a greeting in seven different languages, and I think I have heard all seven.

I will tell you, personally, he is one of the most loyal friends you can count on. When I ran for the Senate in 1996 as a downstate Congressman, nobody in Chicago knew who I was. Well, lo and behold, it was Secretary Jesse White who spent Sunday after Sunday introducing me to parishioners in Black churches throughout the city. And even though we were both on the ballot that year, he acted like I was the only candidate who needed a helping hand. It was an act of generosity that I am going to always remember.

Really, this is the most consistent thing throughout Secretary White's en-

tire career—service to others. In every role Secretary White has undertaken, he has done his part to build the “Beloved Community” envisioned by the man who mentored him in his early life, none other than Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

As a student at Alabama State in the 1950s, Jesse White leaned on the wisdom of Dr. King, who was his minister at Dexter Avenue Baptist Church. In fact, under Dr. King's leadership, Secretary White participated in the Montgomery bus boycott, one of the earliest demonstrations in our country of the power of nonviolent direct action. It was a formative experience that molded Jesse White into the inspiring leader he is today.

In the decades since, Secretary White has carried Dr. King's legacy forward by practicing the mantra the members of his staff know all too well: “Do something good for someone every day.”

His political career began with his election to the Illinois General Assembly in 1974. For 16 years, he brought together an eclectic group of communities in Chicago from what he called the Gold Coast to the Soul Coast. Whether his constituents lived along Lake Shore Drive or in the Cabrini-Green Homes housing project, they all knew Jesse White was on their side.

In 1992, he moved up to be Cook County Recorder of Deeds. It is a role in which his reputation as a miracle worker began to take shape. Secretary White put painstaking efforts into modernizing the office. In the words of his former chief of staff, and one of my lead employees, Margaret Houlihan, “It was like a social service agency. Everyone would line up outside the office to wait and see” if Jesse could help them in any way, “even when it had nothing to do with his role as Recorder of Deeds.”

Jesse White would listen and do everything he could to find housing, find a job for someone, help a young child who was in trouble.

Jesse White was elected our secretary of state in 1998—the first Black Illinoisan to occupy the office. Today, he remains the longest serving secretary of state. He transformed an office that had been marred by corruption and greed into an efficient and effective agency.

When he was first elected, he declared that he would “strive to be the best Secretary of State” that we had ever seen. Safe to say, he lived up to that aspiration.

He cleaned the office up, first, by banning the solicitation of campaign contributions by employees. He has made our streets safer by imposing tougher rules and regulations for drivers as well as implementing a comprehensive teen driving program that has saved lives.

His integrity has shined every step of the way, and he has kept the promise he made when he first ran in 1998; that the secretary of state's office would be his “last stop in the political arena.”

Outside of the political arena, he is legendary as well. He is admired for perhaps his proudest legacy. It is a title he has held for more than 60 years. He is the founder of the Jesse White Tumblers. He first launched the team back in 1959 to give the kids in the neighborhood something positive to do. And over the decades, he has recruited more than, listen to this, 18,500 young kids to his tumbling team, training generations of our city's children into expert acrobats.

Their handsprings and back flips have entertained crowds around the world from Canada to China. The Tumblers have flown through the air at major sporting events, made an appearance at President Obama's inaugural. You may remember them from "Ferris Bueller's Day Off."

With his tumbling team, Secretary White has created a safe, welcoming space for Chicago's kids to grow and flourish. As long as they maintain decent grades and abstain from drugs and alcohol, he can't wait to get them on his team. Previous Tumblers have gone on to become doctors, teachers, accountants, community leaders, and more—countless lives changed for the better.

One more story about Jesse White that captures the person he is. It is not what he talks about often. You see, as a young man, he was a pretty good baseball player. After he graduated from Alabama State, he was recruited by the Chicago Cubs to play in the minor leagues. His staff tells me he had a lifetime batting average of .291. I should be so lucky. The top batting average in Major League Baseball today is .326.

Amazingly, days before he was set to leave for spring training with the Cubs and begin his minor league baseball career, he was drafted into the Army. He went to jump school and trained as a paratrooper, serving the Army's 101st Airborne Division and eventually completing 35 jumps, out of what he used to say was a perfectly safe airplane.

It may have been the first time that Secretary White put service to his country and community over his own self-interests, but it wouldn't be the last because that is exactly what he has dedicated himself to every day: doing his part to build the "Beloved Community" and earning his reputation as our State's most beloved public servant.

To Secretary White, you have been every Illinoisan's "happy warrior," championing the needs of our families and defending the rights of those who have been left behind.

Thank you for your leadership and your lifetime of friendship.

Loretta and I wish you a long, happy retirement with your daughters, Glena and Lorraine; your son Mark, and your two grandchildren, Susan and Jesse.

Madam President, last week—last Friday, I went to the Irish Fellowship Luncheon in Chicago. It is quite a fes-

tive event. And I wasn't surprised when that honorary Irishman "Jesse O'White," got the greatest round of applause of all.

Jesse, you deserved it, and you will always be my pal.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. DUCKWORTH). The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

HOUSE CALENDAR

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, throughout this Congress, I have been more than a little puzzled about the House's refusal to advance common-sense bills that pass the Senate with unanimous support. I know my Senate colleagues have shared their concerns as we have watched bipartisan bills sit in House purgatory with no explanation as to what the reasons for the holdup are.

We are talking about bills that help prevent child sexual abuse, support disaster relief, cut redtape, and increase payments to the child support program. These are hardly controversial matters. All 100 Members of the Senate supported these bipartisan bills and countless others, but they are still collecting dust on the House calendar.

With the end of the 117th Congress less than a month away, it looks like the logjam may finally begin to break. Last week, the House finally passed the Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Reauthorization Act that I authored with Senator KLOBUCHAR. This bill will continue critical grants for mental health courts, crisis intervention teams, and other programs to promote public safety, improve mental health outcomes, and reduce recidivism. The bill passed the Senate unanimously in June, and while I am disappointed that it took so long for the House to act, I am glad it finally did with overwhelming bipartisan support.

Last week, the House also passed legislation to rename the post office in Arlington, TX, not exactly a monumental piece of legislation. But the important part of it was that it honored our friend and former colleague Congressman Ron Wright. This legislation passed the Senate with unanimous support back in May, and over the last 6 months, it has gotten caught up in partisan jockeying in the House. I am glad the House finally advanced this bill so that we can honor the incredible life and legacy of Congressman Wright.

As I said, the logjam looks like it is beginning to break, but we still have a way to go.

Despite advancing these two overwhelmingly bipartisan bills, the House still refuses to pass another incredible bill, the Residential Substance Use Disorder Treatment Act. Senator WHITE-

HOUSE and I introduced this bipartisan bill to help incarcerated individuals struggling with drug abuse.

There is a well-established link between drug abuse and crime. And in order for individuals who have been incarcerated to have the best shot at leading healthy and productive lives, they need to break the cycle of addiction.

The Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Program—or RSAT, as it is sometimes called—provides incarcerated individuals with access to treatment for substance use disorders. The treatment is coupled with programs to prepare these men and women for re-entry and to provide community-based treatment once they are released.

Our bill updates the program and expands access to treatment in jails and prisons around the country so that we can reduce recidivism and build safer, healthier communities. More than two dozen organizations have endorsed this bill, including law enforcement, criminal justice, and behavioral health groups.

As I indicated, it passed the Senate with unanimous support last year, but for some unknown reason, the House has refused to take it up so far. I can only hope that this will change in the waning days of the 117th Congress.

As bad as it is to block any of these commonsense, bipartisan bills, one of the most confounding is a bill to improve the way police respond to an individual experiencing a mental health crisis. This has been a major issue, something we have led on here in the Congress.

Why the House refuses to act now is beyond me, but the American people have witnessed one disturbing incident after another in which a seemingly benign encounter with police turned deadly. These have included everything from routine traffic stops to encounters with individuals experiencing a severe mental health meltdown.

We all agree that deadly force should be a last resort. Unfortunately, police officers don't always have the training and the resources they need to defuse potentially dangerous situations. That is why this training and these grants are so important, to deescalate the confrontation.

As we all know, our communities ask a lot of our law enforcement officers. In addition to fighting crimes, they are often the first to respond to domestic disputes, drug overdoses, and, yes, mental health crises. They are expected to function as peace officers, social workers, mental health professionals, and crisis response experts of all stripes.

We have tried to lessen the burden on police through bills like the Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Reauthorization Act, but those bills alone are not enough. Law enforcement has asked Congress for more support to improve deescalation training, and we need to deliver.

That is exactly why I worked with Senator WHITEHOUSE, the Democratic

Senator from Rhode Island, to update and reintroduce the Law Enforcement De-Escalation Training Act. This legislation will ensure that all of our officers have the skills they need to defuse a potentially dangerous situation that could endanger them or perhaps the individual experiencing the crisis.

Again, use of force should come into play only when absolutely necessary, and this legislation will provide law enforcement with the ready knowledge of what alternatives exist. It will help train police in deescalation tactics, the most effective and safest ways to interact with people experiencing mental health or suicide crises, and how to work as part of a crisis intervention team.

Law enforcement has specifically requested this training, and I am not willing to second-guess them when they say these are important techniques to keep their officers and the general public safe. They are certainly not “soft-on-crime” policies.

This bill has a list of endorsements that is as long as it is diverse. Law enforcement groups, including the Fraternal Order of Police, the National Association of Police Organizations, and the National Sheriffs’ Association have all endorsed this bill. So did the Major County Sheriffs of America, the Major Cities Chiefs Association, and the National Criminal Justice Association.

This legislation also has the support of major mental health groups, including the National Alliance on Mental Illness, the American Psychological Association, and the Meadows Health Policy Institute.

It received the endorsement of folks on the conservative end of the spectrum, such as the American Conservative Union, the Faith and Freedom Coalition, and Right on Crime.

It has the support of faith-based groups, including Prison Fellowship, the National Association of Evangelicals, and the Catholic Prison Ministry Coalition.

It has also received the support of the National Association of Counties, which represents local leaders throughout the country.

Despite this long list of advocates and stakeholders who support this bill and the fact that the Senate passed it unanimously, the House, for some unknown reason, blocked it this last week. While it received majority support, it failed to clear the two-thirds threshold necessary under the House suspension calendar.

Many of the people who voted against this bill are the same ones who supported deescalation training grants multiple times in previous years. They are even on record promoting their support in the media.

As recently as 2 months ago, grants for deescalation training were uncontroversial. It is tough to understand what has changed and why anyone would vote against this bill now.

It provides the funding and the training that law enforcement desperately

needs and that will help make encounters between law enforcement and people experiencing a mental health crisis much safer for all concerned. It will help build public confidence and trust in our law enforcement agencies, and, like I said, it has the support of a full range of stakeholders.

There is no ideological or political reason why people would not support this bill, as Members of the Senate and Members of the Congress across the political spectrum have seen the wisdom of passing this legislation. But I must say that anyone who considers themselves “pro-police” or pro-law enforcement should be pro this legislation.

I am disappointed, as I said, that the House blocked this bill from heading to the President’s desk last week, and I am hopeful that Speaker PELOSI and Leader HOYER will schedule another vote at a simple majority threshold soon.

I look forward to that second vote because, as we know, House Republicans have been very clear about their support for America’s police officers.

Earlier this year, they rolled out their “Commitment to America” framework, which included a commitment to build a nation that is safe. Part of that commitment is to “oppose all efforts to defund the police.” I stand by that commitment 100 percent, and no one who supports the Commitment to America should waiver in their support of law enforcement, including this particular piece of legislation.

In order for every American to not only be safe but to feel safe, we need to enact long overdue reforms to ensure police are more responsibly serving our communities, and that is that they have the training and tools they need in order to do their dangerous and difficult job.

The Law Enforcement De-Escalation Training Act will go a long way to give those officers the funding and training that they have requested and that they need in order to do their jobs better.

Just as House Republicans have promised, we must give America’s brave law enforcement officers the resources they need in order to protect and serve our communities.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

OPEN APP MARKETS ACT

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam President, this past February, the Senate Judiciary Committee agreed 20 to 2 to pass the Open App Markets Act. This is a piece of legislation I put together with Senator BLUMENTHAL to stop tech giants from stifling competition in the app store marketplace.

Through their control of the app stores on consumer devices as well as

the device operating systems themselves, Apple and Google have become the gatekeepers of information. They do this by physically locking down the devices they control, making it near impossible to access competing content.

Apple fully prevents consumers from accessing third-party apps and app stores on their mobile devices. Google allows more access to outside apps but makes the process so difficult that they might as well lock down their devices the way Apple is locking down the iPhone.

These companies claim that these restrictions make your devices more secure, but they don’t apply the same policies to their laptops and other similar consumer devices; it is only on the iPhone and on the Android. Why would that be? Now, I don’t know for sure, but I do know this: By locking down their mobile devices, Apple and Google can force app developers to abide by their terms no matter how harsh those terms may be.

Recently, Daniel Eck, who is the founder and CEO of Spotify, said: “Over and over again, Apple gives itself every advantage while at the same time stifling innovation and hurting consumers.” Elon Musk, now the CEO of Twitter, has criticized the 30-percent “tax” that Apple and Google take from developers.

What is more, app creators can’t go to consumers themselves to offer them a better deal because that kind of contact is forbidden by Apple and Google in their terms of service. Think about it. You can’t even reach out to the people who have your app because Apple and Google forbid you, the developer, from contacting the consumer who is using your app.

Consider the positions startup developers are placed in. Imagine trying to get your business off the ground in a market where two major players control access to your potential customers. There is no other market, and you can’t negotiate with them, so you are forced to play by the rules the gatekeepers are forcing on you. Under those rules, the gatekeepers control your access to your customers. They use your confidential business information against you and block you from using the features on your customers’ device to give them a better experience.

I heard just this story from a Tennessee named Karen Thomas, who is the CEO of Agrin Health in Nashville. Listen to the way she describes how Apple held her company’s app hostage. I am quoting her story.

They demanded changes that would eliminate Agrin’s paid functions in its web app and stopped Karen from updating her mobile app—which was free—until she began charging consumers through Apple’s in-app payment system. This, again, would let Apple take a 30% cut of every subscription Agrin received.

That is the “Apple tax” in action.

Karen said:

Our app and our mission was set to die at the hands of Apple unless our infant company came up with hundreds of thousands of dollars to reconfigure our service delivery while losing 30% of associated revenue—and we are not alone.

It doesn't matter if you are a startup or an established company: When it comes to the digital economy, you depend on Apple and Google to stay alive because they control your access to your customers. They are the gatekeepers of your information.

Now, the Open App Markets Act made it out of committee and almost unanimously received that vote—as I said, 20 to 2. Republicans and Democrats agree that this is not the way a healthy marketplace should be working. That is why we got that near-unanimous vote.

This bill needs a vote because it will set the fair, clear, and enforceable rules needed to protect the competition. It will force Big Tech to allow third-party apps and app stores on their devices. App store owners won't be able to lock developers into in-app payment arrangements anymore, which opens the door to competitive pricing. Developers will also be able to keep their confidential business information private. Imagine having to share your information—somebody else controls it—and they use your business information to compete against you. Most importantly, the developers will be able to communicate with their customers, which for any business owner is key to creating a strong product or service.

I think it has become clear that the American people know how much Big Tech is controlling their lives, but they are no longer content to sit by and let these companies consolidate power, especially at the expense of freedom and basic human rights.

Over the past few weeks, we have watched the Chinese people revolt against Xi Jinping's "zero-COVID" lockdowns. Much of the coverage has come to us via apps we have downloaded on our phone. But for the protesters in China, their use of tech is a double-edged sword.

We know the Chinese Communist Party is using apps and other forms of technology to identify and surveil and ultimately punish the protesters in China. People are being tracked via their virtual private networks and through apps like Signal and Telegram.

For activists with iPhones, their options are now even more limited. Before the protests boiled over, Apple made the unforgivable choice to disable the AirDrop feature in China only. That is right—the only place on the face of the Earth that Apple decided to disable AirDrop was in China, just prior to the protests.

This feature was an activist's best friend because it allowed one person to share files with an entire local network with no way for the government to come in and monitor what they were sending. It was a game changer, and Apple decided to flip the switch.

When reporters asked Apple's CEO Tim Cook last week if he supported the protesters in China, he refused to answer. Now, I agree, this is incomprehensible—until you remember that China is Apple's largest market outside of the United States, and it is a major source for Apple's supply chain. In fact, both Apple and Google have a long history of giving authoritarian governments everything that they ask for. Last fall, both companies acted on Moscow's orders and removed an app designed to coordinate protest voting in the Russian elections.

My colleagues may remember the scandal that was the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympic's app. The Chinese Communist Party forced all the athletes and coaches and spectators to use this app. They didn't have a choice. Both Apple and Google listed it on their phones even though they knew the CCP was using it to spy on their customers.

This isn't mere gatekeeping; this is picking winners and losers in an environment where the losers could end up dead because of the decisions these companies are making.

When I first started working on this bill with Senator BLUMENTHAL, I received letters from several human rights organizations thanking me for paying attention to how these companies were using their power. We know that Apple has plans to move some of their production out of China, so perhaps some day, the Chinese Communist Party will have less of a stranglehold on free communication around the world. But I would remind my colleagues that moving the chess pieces of production, while vitally important, does not fully address the problem we are trying to solve with the Open App Markets Act. Think of everything that happened before Apple decided to speed up this transition. We don't have time to put this bill on a shelf while China and Big Tech work out their differences.

The digital marketplace is no longer a novelty; it is an essential service that billions of people rely on. In 2020, U.S. consumers spent nearly \$33 billion in mobile app stores and downloaded more than 13.4 billion apps. Two companies exclusively dictate the terms of that market. They have certainly made it clear that their power comes first, their profits are more important, and the customers are at the end of the list. They are last on the list of concerns.

Every day, I hear from Tennesseans who have realized just how little control they have over their mobile device. They live half of their lives on their device, and they are no longer comfortable letting Apple and Google dictate the terms of their interactions with the rest of the world.

We shouldn't be comfortable with allowing that to continue. I would encourage my colleagues to join with Senator BLUMENTHAL and with me and support this legislation. Let's get it passed and to the President's desk.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 1238.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Jeffery Paul Hopkins, of Ohio, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Ohio.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 1238, Jeffery Paul Hopkins, of Ohio, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Ohio.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Alex Padilla, Michael F. Bennet, Brian Schatz, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Mazie Hirono, Chris Van Hollen, Jacky Rosen, Margaret Wood Hassan, Sherrod Brown, Amy Klobuchar, Tina Smith, Debbie Stabenow, Elizabeth Warren, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Tammy Duckworth.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 1183.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Tamika R. Montgomery-Reeves, of Delaware, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 1183, Tamika R. Montgomery-Reeves, of Delaware, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Alex Padilla, Tina Smith, Michael F. Bennet, Christopher A. Coons, Margaret Wood Hassan, Tim Kaine, Ben Ray Lujan, Tammy Duckworth, Jack Reed, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Angus S. King, Jr., Patty Murray, Catherine Cortez Masto, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Martin Heinrich.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 1146.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Dana M. Douglas, of Louisiana, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 1146, Dana M. Douglas, of Louisiana, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Jeff Merkley, Tina Smith, Sheldon

Whitehouse, Benjamin L. Cardin, Maria Cantwell, Amy Klobuchar, Jon Ossoff, Mark Kelly, Jacky Rosen, Brian Schatz, Mazie Hirono, Angus S. King, Jr., Thomas R. Carper, Sherrod Brown, Tim Kaine.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls for the cloture motions filed today, December 5, be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask that the scheduled vote occur immediately.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there an objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Doris L. Pryor, of Indiana, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Seventh Circuit.

VOTE ON PRYOR NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Pryor nomination?

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY), and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), and the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO).

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KING). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 60, nays 31, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 373 Ex.]

YEAS—60

Baldwin	Duckworth	Menendez
Bennet	Durbin	Merkley
Blumenthal	Feinstein	Murkowski
Blunt	Gillibrand	Murray
Booker	Graham	Ossoff
Braun	Hassan	Padilla
Cantwell	Heinrich	Peters
Capito	Hirono	Portman
Cardin	Kaine	Reed
Carper	Kelly	Romney
Casey	King	Rosen
Cassidy	Klobuchar	Rounds
Collins	Lujan	Sanders
Coons	Manchin	Schatz
Cornyn	Markey	Schumer
Cortez Masto	McConnell	Shaheen

Sinema
Smith
Stabenow
Tester

Tillis
Van Hollen
Warner
Warren

Whitehouse
Wicker
Wyden
Young

NAYS—31

Blackburn
Boozman
Burr
Cotton
Crapo
Cruz
Daines
Ernst
Fischer
Grassley
Hagerty

Hawley
Hoeven
Hyde-Smith
Inhofe
Johnson
Kennedy
Lankford
Lee
Lummis
Marshall
Moran

Paul
Sasse
Scott (FL)
Scott (SC)
Shelby
Sullivan
Thune
Toomey
Tuberville

NOT VOTING—9

Barrasso
Brown
Cramer

Hickenlooper
Leahy
Murphy

Risch
Rubio
Warnock

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The Senator from Nevada.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO DEBORAH YETTER

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, few things ensure honesty in State and local government as effectively as a tenacious local journalist. Though the ranks of our Nation's small and mid-sized newspapers have shrunk in recent years, these dogged reporters still stalk the halls of State capitol buildings and city halls, ready to pull back the curtain on government officials and bring harsh sunlight to murky backrooms.

In Kentucky, the Louisville Courier-Journal's Deborah Yetter has been our consummate local journalist for nearly four decades, breaking news and exposing government scandals, all for the voters' benefit. Deborah retired from her role this November, earning praise and accolades from all around the Commonwealth. Today, I ask my Senate colleagues to join me in adding my voice to that chorus and congratulating Deborah on her retirement.

Deborah has been reporting on Kentucky's government since she first graduated college, starting her career in eastern Kentucky and honing her skills at Harlan County's Tri-City News. At that weekly, she focused on conditions in local coal mines, reported on endemic unemployment and poverty in the area, and covered local officials. Her work attracted attention from Louisville, where she moved in 1984 to

work for the Louisville Times. That paper merged with the Courier-Journal in 1987, and Deborah has been with Kentucky's flagship newspaper ever since.

Early on in her career, Deborah developed a deep well of understanding of the functions of State and local government, paying special attention to issues affecting Kentucky's most vulnerable. She covered abuses in the systems caring for the Commonwealth's children, elderly, and disabled, offering a voice to communities that often lacked one of their own. Through her stories, she moved public officials to improve Kentucky's juvenile detention centers, child protection system, facilities housing adults with intellectual disabilities, and mental health services. Often, her work ran up against obstinate public officials who were loath to release sensitive information to the public. She took them to court and won.

First as a local official in Jefferson County and then as a Senator representing Kentuckians statewide, I have had several opportunities to work with Deborah over the past four decades. In our interactions she was always tough but fair, a standard she maintained throughout her career. That integrity won her recognition in Kentucky and beyond, including two Pulitzer Prizes, the University of Kentucky's James Madison Award for Service to the First Amendment, and induction into the Kentucky Journalism Hall of Fame. When she made her retirement public, colleagues and advocates from around the Commonwealth offered praise for her 38 years of hard work. Vulnerable Kentuckians everywhere are better off because of her reporting on their behalf.

Deborah plans to use her retirement to spend more time with her three children, who now all live out-of-state, and her new grandchild. She looks forward to dedicating more hours to volunteering at the YMCA, singing in the St. James Catholic Church choir, and working with children at the St. James School. Even after leaving the Courier-Journal, she will continue to fight for good in Kentucky. On behalf of the entire Senate, I thank Deborah for her service to Kentucky and wish her well in the next chapter of her life.

Mr. President, the Louisville Courier-Journal paid tribute to Deborah Yetter's retirement in a recent article. I ask unanimous consent that the article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Louisville Courier-Journal, Nov. 15, 2022]

PULITZER-WINNING REPORTER DEBORAH YETTER, PROTECTOR OF KENTUCKY'S CHILDREN, RETIRES

Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Deborah Yetter, whose tenacious reporting on abuse, neglect and children's welfare spurred greater protections for Kentucky's most vulnerable residents, has retired after 38 years in the industry.

Yetter's final day at The Courier Journal was Nov. 11.

"Debby has received many well-deserved honors, awards and accolades during her almost four decades as a journalist, but the Courier Journal family will miss her for so much more than her stellar reporting," Executive Editor Mary Irby-Jones said.

"She is caring and compassionate, and many young journalists in our newsroom have benefited from her wisdom," Irby-Jones said. "I have had the privilege of working with some top-notch journalists, and Debby is among the best."

Yetter's longtime colleague, retired state-house reporter Tom Loftus, said Yetter "was a rare reporter who, to sum it up in one sentence, focused on the needy."

Indeed, Yetter's coverage of Kentucky's social services gave voice to the most marginalized in society, including children, the disabled and those with mental illnesses:

Her stories on the appalling conditions in the state's juvenile justice centers led to a federal civil rights investigation and sweeping changes in the state system, including a new emphasis on treatment and rehabilitation instead of punishment and confinement.

Her series called "Preying on Seniors" uncovered horrendous cases of abuse, neglect and a poor system of state care, leading to several changes in state law aimed at better protecting seniors and prosecuting their abusers.

Her stories examining the confidentiality of Kentucky's child protection system—and her push to get The Courier Journal to join litigation forcing the state to release records of its actions in abuse cases—led to a major open-records victory.

Now vital records about how well the state protects children in abuse and neglect cases are accessible. These stories also prompted the state to create an outside oversight panel to review child deaths from abuse and neglect.

That panel has since provided critical oversight of cases that likely would have escaped public notice, including the case of a 16-year-old boy with autism who in 2014 suffered two fractured femurs, a near-fatal injury, in a supposedly safe restraint at a Jefferson County public school.

Late Courier Journal editor David Hawpe called her "a shining light in state government reporting."

"Her work has had a direct, powerful impact on the lives of Kentuckians—especially defenseless children who suffer at the hands of incompetent and irresponsible state bureaucrats," he said in 2017 when Yetter was awarded the James Madison Award for Service to the First Amendment by the University of Kentucky.

Yetter, a University of Louisville and Northwestern University graduate, began her journalism career in Eastern Kentucky, first as an instructor at Southeast Community College and later as a freelance reporter for The Courier Journal and as managing editor of the Tri-City News, a weekly in Harlan County. During that time, she covered stories ranging from coal mine strikes to poverty and unemployment and local politics.

The Louisville native joined The Louisville Times in April 1984, later moving to The Courier Journal in 1987 after it merged with the Times.

During her more than three decades at the Louisville newspapers, Yetter covered transportation, county government, federal courts, health, social services and the state legislature. She also spent time as an editorial writer.

In 1994, Yetter began a series of investigative stories about horrid conditions in the state's centers for juvenile offenders.

Through her reporting on a largely unseen and confidential system, she exposed poorly staffed facilities where youths were routinely locked in isolation cells, beaten by other youths and staff and denied adequate medical care and mental health treatment.

The stories triggered a civil rights investigation by the U.S. Justice Department in 1995 and led to sweeping reforms in the state system under a five-year federal consent decree.

In 2009, she produced a three-day series called "Children in Crisis" outlining how years of underfunding, poor management and excessive confidentiality around child protection had created a crisis in child welfare in Kentucky.

Jennifer Hancock, president and CEO for Volunteers of America Mid-States, said Yetter's departure will be felt throughout the commonwealth.

"She has a uniquely skillful approach to covering the most complex child welfare issues of our time," Hancock said.

Yetter also spent time reporting on problems in the state's system for vulnerable adults, including those with intellectual disabilities. Yetter's coverage included extensive reporting in 2006 and 2007 on Oakwood, a problem-ridden residential facility in rural Kentucky marked with years of abuse and mistreatment of residents.

Following Yetter's reporting, the state replaced the out-of-state management company running Oakwood with a Kentucky nonprofit agency experienced in care of people with mental illnesses and intellectual disabilities.

Yetter was part of The Courier Journal team that earned a Pulitzer Prize for coverage of the Carrollton bus crash in 1988, when 27 people were killed after a collision with a drunken driver. In 2020, she was again part of a Pulitzer effort, this time for staff reporting on former Kentucky Gov. Matt Bevin's flurry of criminal pardons during his last days in office.

Yetter in 2015 was awarded the Louisville Chapter of the National Council of Jewish Women's "Pathway to Justice" award for coverage of child abuse and neglect. Yetter also won numerous other awards for her coverage of children, elders and people with disabilities or mental illnesses.

She was inducted into the Kentucky Journalism Hall of Fame in 2022, a recognition that her colleagues stressed was long overdue.

Yetter's departure "leaves a tremendous void" in Kentucky journalism, said Bennie Ivory, Courier Journal executive editor from 1997-2013. The depth of Yetter's knowledge about the commonwealth's social services was "unmatched," he said.

"Political leaders knew Debby knew more about children's welfare than they did, so they couldn't bull her," said Terry Brooks, executive director for Kentucky Youth Advocates.

Yetter had a special knack for covering "the peoples" stories, said Sheila Schuster, a mental health and disability advocate.

Schuster worked closely with Yetter in 2017 when then-Gov. Bevin vetoed a bill known as "Tim's Law." The bill, named for a Lexington man who died after a long battle with mental illness, was meant to stop the revolving door of jails, hospitals and homelessness for the mentally ill. Yetter reported at the time.

Yetter's human-centered coverage of the issue led lawmakers to override Bevin's veto, Schuster said.

"She was always, always willing to talk to the people affected," Schuster said. "She put a face to the problem, so that people really understood the impact."

Yetter's tenacity made her work "very, very important for public opinion," said Jon

Fleischaker, a First Amendment attorney who represents *The Courier Journal*.

"She's direct," he said. "She goes right to the heart of it, and she wouldn't take no for an answer."

Fleischaker represented *The Courier Journal* in the early 2000s when the paper, along with the *Lexington Herald-Leader*, battled the Catholic Diocese of Lexington over its coverup of clergy child abuse. The diocese tried—and failed—to hold *The Courier Journal* in contempt for publishing Yetter's story on the coverup.

Fleischaker also worked closely with Yetter during former Gov. Steve Beshear's administration, when the Cabinet for Health and Family Services sought to withhold records about severe child abuse in the state. *The Courier Journal* ultimately won its cases, with a judge ordering the cabinet to pay more than \$1 million in attorneys fees and penalties, Fleischaker said.

Yetter's reporting on the contested records exposed gruesome child fatalities, including those in the state's care.

Brooks saw Yetter's doggedness in that reporting firsthand, when one morning he watched her sprint down a government building hallway to get an interview with then-Cabinet Secretary, Janie Miller.

Miller eventually resigned.

"Kentucky's kids have had no clarion voice stronger than Debby Yetter," Brooks said. "She was as insightful as she was persistent and often was the 'canary in the coal mine,' identifying issues before they were on anyone's radar."

"The loss for Kentucky's kids is unfathomable," he added.

Schuster agreed.

"Like so many, I'm happy for her and sad for the rest of us."

Outside of work, Yetter is a longtime member of the YMCA and served for several years on a member's committee to review Y programs and services. She also has been a member of St. James Catholic Church for more than 30 years. She sings in the choir and has volunteered on parish committees and projects including one to restore the historic church and school. She also served on the St. James School committee and volunteered at the school when her children were enrolled, including working in the lunch room one day a week.

Yetter said she is looking forward to visiting her three children, each of whom live out of state, as well as her 1-year-old grandchild. She said she is ready for a break and to "not always be on a deadline."

"I love what I do and I think it's important," Yetter said. "There's never going to be a good time to leave."

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the *RECORD* the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such

annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the *RECORD*, as follows:

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(A) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 0T-22. This notification relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 20-40 of July 6, 2020.

Sincerely,

JAMES A. HURSCH,
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 0T-22

Report of Enhancement or Upgrade of Sensitivity of Technology or Capability (Sec. 36(B)(5)(A), AECA)

(i) Purchaser: Government of France.
(ii) Sec. 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 20-40; Date: July 6, 2020; Military Department: Navy.
(iii) Description: On July 6, 2020, Congress was notified by Congressional certification transmittal number 20-40, of the possible sale, under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, of three (3) E-2D Advanced Hawkeye Aircraft, ten (10) T-56-427A engines (6 installed and 4 spares), three (3) AN/APY-9 radar assemblies, four (4) AN/ALQ-217 electronic support measure systems (3 installed and 1 spare), three (3) AN/AYK-27 Integrated Navigation Channels and Display Systems, five (5) Link-16 (MIDS-JTRS) Communications Systems (3 installed and 2 spares), ten (10) Embedded GPS/INS (E(G1) Devices (6 installed and 4 spares), four (4) AN/APX-122(A) and AN/APX-123(A) Identification, Friend or Foe systems (3 installed and 1 spare) and one (1) Joint Mission Planning System. Also included were Common Systems Integration Laboratories with Test Equipment, one in Melbourne, FL, and the other in France; air and ground crew equipment; support equipment; spare and repair parts; publications and technical documentation; transportation; training and training equipment; U.S. Government and contractor logistics, engineering, and technical support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost was \$2 billion. Major Defense Equipment (MDE) constituted \$1.3 billion of this total.

On April 5, 2022, Congress was notified by Congressional certification transmittal number 22-0E of one (1) Tactics Trainer—Weapon Systems (TT) (MDE). Also included were additional training devices, spares, and services. The addition of these items resulted in a net increase in MDE cost of \$42 million, resulting in a revised MDE cost of \$1.35 billion. The total estimated case value increased to \$2.1 billion.

This transmittal reports the inclusion of one (1) additional Multifunctional Information Distribution System Joint Tactical Radio System (MIDS-JTRS) terminal (MDE). The estimated total value of the added item is \$240,000 but will not result in a change to the previously notified MDE total of \$1.35 billion. The total estimated case value will remain \$2.1 billion.

(iv) Significance: The proposed sale will improve France's ongoing E-2D acquisition. It will directly support France's capabilities

for Electronic Warfare, air safety, NATO operations, and interoperability with U.S. forces.

(v) Justification: This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a NATO ally, which is an important force for political stability and economic progress in Europe.

(vi) Sensitivity of Technology: The Sensitivity of Technology Statement contained in the original notification applies to additional items reported here.

(vii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: December 5, 2022.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the *RECORD* the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the *RECORD*, as follows:

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(C) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 22-0V. This notification relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 09-75 of January 29, 2010.

Sincerely,

JAMES A. HURSCH,
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 22-0V

Report of Enhancement or Upgrade of Sensitivity of Technology or Capability (Sec. 36(b)(5)(c), AECA)

(i) Purchaser: Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States (TECRO).

(ii) Sec. 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 09-75; Date: January 29, 2010; Military Department: Army.

Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) Description: On January 29, 2010, Congress was notified by Congressional certification transmittal number 09-75, of the possible sale, under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, of 114 PATRIOT Advanced Capability (PAC-3) missiles, 3 AN/MPQ-65 Radar Sets, 1 AN/MSQ-133 Information and Coordination Centrals, 1 Tactical Command Station, 3 Communication Relay Groups, 3 AN/MSQ-132 Engagement Control

Stations, 26 M902 Launching Stations, 5 Antenna Mast Groups, 1 Electronic Power Plant III (EPP), battery and battalion maintenance equipment, prime movers, generators, electrical power units, personnel training and equipment, trailers, communication equipment, tool and test sets, spare and repair parts, publications and technical documentation, Quality Assurance Team support services, U.S. Government and contractor engineering and logistics support service and other related elements of logistics support. The estimated total cost was \$2.81 billion. Major Defense Equipment (MDE) constituted \$1.57 billion of this total.

This transmittal notifies the inclusion of the following MDE items: one hundred (100) PAC-3 Missile Segment Enhancement (MSE) missiles; and two (2) PAC-3 MSE test missiles. Also included are M903 Launcher modification kits; missile round trainers; and Post Deployment Build (PDB) 8.1 software upgrade. The estimated total value of these additional items is \$882 million. These additions will not result in an increase to the total estimated MDE value of \$1.57 billion. The total estimated case value will remain \$2.81 billion.

(iv) Significance: The proposed sale will enhance the recipient's PATRIOT missile system to improve its missile defense capability, defend its territorial integrity, and deter threats for regional stability.

(v) Justification: This proposed sale serves U.S. national, economic, and security interests by supporting the recipient's continuing efforts to modernize its armed forces and to maintain a credible defensive capability. The proposed sale will help improve the security of the recipient and assist in maintaining political stability, military balance, and economic progress in the region.

(vi) Sensitivity of Technology:

The PATRIOT Advanced Capability (PAC) 3 Missile Segment Enhanced missile is a small, highly agile, kinetic kill interceptor for defense against tactical ballistic missiles, cruise missiles and air-breathing threats. The MSE variant of the PAC-3 missile represents the next generation in hit-to-kill interceptors and provides expanded battlespace against evolving threats. The PAC-3 MSE improves upon the original PAC-3 capability with a higher performance solid rocket motor, modified lethality enhancer, more responsible control surfaces, upgraded guidance software, and insensitive munitions improvements.

The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

(vii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: December 1, 2022.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such

annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(C) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 22-0S. This notification relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 20-77 of October 21, 2020.

Sincerely,

JAMES A. HURSCH,
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 22-0S

Report of Enhancement or Upgrade of Sensitivity of Technology or Capability (Sec. 36(b)(5)(C), AECA)

(i) Purchaser: Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States (TECRO).

(ii) Sec. 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 20-77; Date: October 21, 2020; Military Department: Army.

Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) Description: On October 21, 2020, Congress was notified by Congressional certification transmittal number 20-77, of the possible sale, under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, of eleven (11) High Mobility Artillery Rocket Systems (HIMARS) M142 Launchers; sixty-four (64) Army Tactical Missile Systems (ATACMS) M57 Unitary Missiles; seven (7) M1152A1 High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicles (HMMWVs); eleven (11) M240B Machine Guns, 7.62MM; and seventeen (17) International Field Artillery Tactical Data Systems (IFATDS). Also included were fifty-four (54) M28A2 Low Cost Reduced Range Practice Rocket Pods (LCRRPR); eleven (11) M2A1 machine guns, .50 caliber; twenty-two (22) AN/NRC-92E dual radio systems; seven (7) AN/NRC-92E dual radio ground stations; fifteen (15) AN/VRC-90E single radio systems; eleven (11) M1084A2 cargo Family of Medium Tactical Vehicles (FMTV) Resupply Vehicles (RSV); two (2) M1089A2 cargo wrecker FMTV RSV; eleven (11) M1095 trailer cargo FMTV, 5-ton; support equipment; communications equipment; spare and repair parts; test sets; laptop computers; training and training equipment; publication; systems integration support; technical data; Stockpile Reliability Program (SRP); Quality Assurance and Technical Assistance Teams; U.S. Government and contractor technical, engineering, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistical and program support. The estimated total cost was \$436.1 million. Major Defense Equipment (MOE) constituted \$357.5 million of this total.

This transmittal notifies the inclusion of the following MOE items: an additional eighteen (18) High Mobility Artillery Rocket Systems; twenty (20) Army Tactical Missile Systems Pods; eleven (11) M1152A1 High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicles integrated with C2 shelter; four (4) M1152A1 HMMWVs integrated with SECM shelter; and one hundred forty-four (144) M31A2 Guided Multiple Launch Rocket System (GMLRS) Unitary High Explosive (HE) Pods with Insensitive Munitions Propulsion System (IMPS). Also included are additional 5-ton

M1084A2 cargo Family of Medium Tactical Vehicle (FMTV) Resupply Vehicles (RSV) without winch; 5-ton M1089A2 with winch wreckers; 5-ton M1095 trailers with resupply kits; Intercom Systems to support the HIMARS Launcher; radio/communication mounts; machine gun mounts; battle management system Vehicle Integration Kit; wheel guards; ruggedized laptops; training; training equipment; publications for HIMARS; and munitions, spares, services, and other support equipment. The estimated total value of the additional items is \$520 million. The total estimated MOE value will increase by \$430 million to \$787.5 million, resulting in an estimated total case value of \$956.1 million.

(iv) Significance: The proposed sale will improve the recipient's military goals of updating capability while further enhancing interoperability with the United States and other allies. The recipient intends to use these defense articles and services to modernize its armed forces and expand its capability to strengthen its homeland defense and deter regional threats.

(v) Justification: This proposed sale serves U.S. national, economic, and security interests by supporting the recipient's continuing efforts to modernize its armed forces and to maintain a credible defensive capability. The proposed sale will help improve the security of the recipient and assist in maintaining political stability, military balance, and economic progress in the region.

(vi) Sensitivity of Technology: The M31A2 GMLRS Unitary HE with IMPS is the Army's primary munition for units fielding the M142 HIMARS and M270 Multiple Launcher Rocket System (MLRS) Launchers. The GMLRS Unitary is a solid propellant artillery rocket that uses Global Positioning System/Precise Positioning Service (GPS/PPS)-aided inertial guidance to accurately and quickly deliver a single high-explosive blast fragmentation warhead to targets at ranges from 15-70 kilometers. The rockets are fired from a launch pod container that also serves as the storage and transportation container for the rockets. Each rocket pod holds six (6) total rockets.

The Sensitivity of Technology Statement contained in the original notification applies to remaining items reported here.

The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

(vii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: December 5, 2022.

TRIBUTE TO DR. THOMAS ZACHARIA

Mr. HAGERTY. Mr. President, on behalf of myself and Mrs. BLACKBURN, I ask unanimous consent that the following remarks be placed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD in recognition of Dr. Thomas Zacharia, Director of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory—ORNL.

For 35 years, Dr. Zacharia has provided transformative scientific leadership that has established ORNL as one of the world's premier research institutions, fulfilling national missions in diverse fields, including advanced materials, nuclear science and engineering, neutron science, and high-performance computing.

Dr. Zacharia's vision guided the creation of the Oak Ridge Leadership Computing Facility and established ORNL as the Nation's leading supercomputing institute with the deployment of 10 supercomputers, including

the launch of Frontier in 2022, the first machine to break the exascale barrier.

Under Dr. Zacharia's leadership, ORNL has operated a research reactor with the highest neutron flux in the United States, the most powerful accelerator source of pulsed neutrons for materials research, the largest and most advanced additive manufacturing equipment, and facilities that produce, purify, and ship the most isotopes. He has positioned the laboratory to play a central role in our Nation's pursuit of breakthrough technologies for energy, cybersecurity, quantum, and other diverse fields.

Dr. Zacharia has also expanded the Laboratory's impact in the Oak Ridge Corridor by leading new ventures to attract technology startups and create a pipeline for the next generation of scientists and engineers.

I hope our colleagues join us in recognizing Dr. Zacharia for his tremendous contributions to the Nation, and on behalf of the U.S. Senate, we wish him the best in his future endeavors.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO RABBI STUART WEINBLATT

• Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, this Friday will be a joyous occasion at Congregation B'nai Tzedek in Potomac, MD—a Shabbat dinner to celebrate Rabbi Stuart Weinblatt's 70th birthday. His Excellency Michael Herzog, Israel's Ambassador to the United States, will be the guest speaker at the dinner. Rabbi Weinblatt founded Congregation B'nai Tzedek 34 years ago with just a few families. Today, the Conservative synagogue is thriving, with 650 families. The growth and well-being of Congregation B'nai Tzedek is a testament to Rabbi Weinblatt's vision, persistence, and charismatic leadership.

Rabbi Weinblatt graduated from the University of Maryland with high honors in history. While he was an undergraduate, he helped to establish the Jewish Studies Program and represented the student body to the Maryland State government. He was ordained at the Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati. Rabbi Weinblatt has been an adjunct professor at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC, teaching Jewish history, Bible, and theology. He is widely recognized as a gifted teacher, speaker, and author. "Washington Jewish Week" readers have voted him the "Best Rabbi in Washington" on numerous occasions. The "Forward" newspaper recognized Rabbi Weinblatt as "One of the Most Inspiring Rabbis in America" in 2016. He received the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Washington's "Pillar of the Community" award and a "Man of the Year" award from the Greater Washington Chapter of ORT, the global Jewish educational network that prepares students for ca-

reers in science, technology, engineering, and math—STEM.

Rabbi Weinblatt has served as president of the Washington Board of Rabbis, chaired the National Convention of the Rabbinical Assembly in Jerusalem and in Washington DC, and chaired the prestigious Annual Israel Bonds' Ambassador's Ball. He authored "God, Prayer and Spirituality," a compilation of his sermons, writings, and articles. He is known for his effective use of humor, even when dealing with his own cancer, which he chronicled in "Living in the Shadow of Death: A Rabbi Copes with Cancer," a book one reviewer described as "a comforter to others . . . [and] also a valuable tool for clergy and health care professionals who interact with and counsel individuals in similar situations." He is a frequent columnist for the Jewish News Syndicate, often commenting on the State of Israel.

Rabbi Weinblatt is president of the Rabbinic Cabinet of the Jewish Federations of North America and has served as director of Israel Policy and Advocacy for the Rabbinical Assembly. He heads the Jewish National Fund's "Rabbis for Israel." In these roles, Rabbi Weinblatt has played a critical role in strengthening the enduring bond between our two democracies, whose diplomatic partnership will celebrate its 75th anniversary next May. Today, in a world in turmoil, in the Middle East region and beyond, our bilateral relationship is more important than ever, and Rabbi Weinblatt can be justly proud of the role he has played in securing this bond.

The mission statement of Congregation B'nai Tzedek emphasizes the collective responsibility to do "tikun olam," to give "tzedekah," and to perform "mitzvot" regularly "as a means of supporting Jewish causes and all people in need." The Congregation is committed to making Jewish values relevant and meaningful in today's world and, under Rabbi Weinblatt's inspired leadership, it succeeds. On behalf of my Senate colleagues, I would like to join the families of Congregation B'nai Tzedek; Rabbi Weinblatt's wife Symcha, his children, and grandchildren; his rabbinical colleagues; Ambassador Herzog; and everyone else fortunate to know him as a friend or mentor in wishing him a happy 70th birthday, "ad me'ah v'esrim!"

TRIBUTE TO SENIOR MASTER SERGEANT RYAN E. BYRNE

• Mr. COTTON. Mr. President, it is my great privilege to recognize Senior Master Sergeant Ryan E. Byrne—senior enlisted leader of the 389th Fighter Generation Squadron, Mountain Home Air Force Base, ID—for his distinguished military service.

Senior Master Sergeant Ryan E. Byrne has dedicated two decades of service to the U.S. Air Force, ensuring that our Nation's frontline of air defense and precision strike is properly

trained and equipped to deter or destroy our adversaries. He exemplifies the best qualities of an airman, consistently demonstrating a calm and dependable demeanor in high stakes, no-fail situations.

Throughout his various deployments in support of Operations Enduring Freedom, Inherent Resolve, Spartan Shield, Pacific Iron, Noble Eagle, he masterfully utilized his team's combat capabilities to deliver on call, around the clock airpower. His actions ensured the safe, reliable maintenance of the U.S. Air Force premier strike fighter, the F-15E, which led to the decimation of foreign terror threats including the Taliban, Al-Qaeda, and the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria.

Senior Master Sergeant Ryan E. Byrne was instrumental in sustaining combat readiness of the revered 389th Thunderbolts from Mountain Home Air Force Base, ID, which propelled the 389th T-Bolts in surpassing several of Air Force Central Command's longstanding records. He is a recipient of the Air Force Meritorious Service award, which is a true testament to his forthright leadership and commitment to the mission and our great Nation.

I join all grateful Americans in extending a sincere thank you and heartfelt congratulations to Senior Master Sergeant Ryan E. Byrne for his decorated service in protecting the United States of America.●

ANNIVERSARY OF TORNADOES IN WESTERN KENTUCKY

• Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, almost 1 year ago, on December 10, 2021, multiple tornadoes touched down all throughout western Kentucky, including one historic supercell tornado that affected multiple States and ended in Kentucky. Lives were upended as homes, businesses, and towns were completely destroyed. In many places, the destruction was total and absolute. At a time when families were to be preparing for a joyous holiday season, they were instead greeted by sorrow and loss, while being surrounded by an uneasy reality of wreckage and despair.

Immediately, local citizens, Kentuckians around the Commonwealth, and people from across the country converged on western Kentucky to help in any way they could. Disaster relief teams sprang into action to meet the needs of those who were impacted and who had lost everything. I am grateful that Kentuckians rose up in the face of this crisis to do whatever was necessary to help and to provide care for our neighbors.

While outside organizations and ministries provided essential services, the real heroes of the story are the communities themselves that were destroyed by the tornado. Through this historic crisis, the men and women of western Kentucky have demonstrated resilience and compassion as they care for the communities they call home. From

the first responders to the local officials to each man, woman, and child involved, there was remarkable strength demonstrated in the face of adversity. Communities have grieved together, served together, hoped together, and rebuilt together. Today, almost 1 year later, we look back on what has been lost, but also resolve to look forward to what can be achieved together.

As we pause to reflect on the destruction of December 10, 2021, we can see the hope that now shines through as towns are rebuilt and communities regain shape. Even in tragedy, Kentucky has shown itself to be resilient and unified. We will continue to press forward and care for our communities.●

RECOGNIZING SLAINTE PUBLIC HOUSE

● Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, as ranking member of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I recognize an outstanding Kentucky small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit. This week, it is my privilege to recognize Slainte Public House of Georgetown, KY, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

The dream behind Slainte Public House was born thousands of miles away from its home in the Blue Grass State, dating back to 2015 when owners Matt and Ashley Nunn traveled to Ireland in celebration of their 10th wedding anniversary. Upon their arrival in the Old Country, the Nunnns witnessed how pubs across Ireland offered a space where communities could gather. The couple was struck by how these businesses were so entrenched in their communities, serving a purpose far greater than the stated goals of a typical American bar. Thus, upon their return to their home State, the Nunnns decided to try their hand at emulating the communal attraction of the Irish pubs they enjoyed and, in the spring of 2016, opened Slainte Public House.

Matt and Ashley's goal for Slainte Public House, or "The Pub" as regulars like to call it, is for their community to be strengthened by friendships made onsite. The Nunnns sought to create a space that offers its patrons something more profound than just food or drink, but a place where lively discussion is encouraged, hearty laughter is unavoidable, and a tear can be shed every now and then. Today, 6 years after opening, you can ask any Georgetown local, and they will tell you that the Nunnns have succeeded in their goal. However, the story of its' Irish inspiration is not the only notable fact about Slainte Public House's creation. In opening Slainte Public House, Matt and Ashley Nunn opened the first licensed bar to operate in Scott County since the days of Prohibition, when the purchase and consumption of alcohol was outlawed. Therefore, the Pub's 6 years in operation makes Slainte Public House the oldest operating licensed bar in Georgetown, KY, a title the Nunnns are proud to bare.

Though the pub has been operating less than a decade, the building in which the pub is housed has a history of its own. Constructed in 1793, the building once served as the home of George Algair, who resided there in the 1850s. As chairman of the Independent Ticket, Algair represented a group who opposed efforts to outlaw alcohol in Georgetown. Ann Bevin, a Scott County historian, uncovered a quote from Algair that reads "Give 'em license, for they drink with or without it." Perhaps Mr. Algair had a talent for clairvoyance as his former residence now gladly serves as the local watering hole for the good citizens of Georgetown.

Following Scott County's transformation from a "dry county" to a "wet county" in 2009, there were many Georgetown citizens who were apprehensive about the opening of Slainte Public House 7 short years later in 2016. Though Matt had long dreamed of owning his own bar, his wife Ashley initially was not on board with the idea. However, when the two traveled across the Atlantic, Ashley finally understood what her husband had been dreaming about. A new convert to the idea, the Nunnns took special care in making Slainte Public House a place that could foster the style of fellowship they witnessed in the Irish pubs. Walking into Slainte Public House today, you will find overstuffed chairs, conversation nooks, and tables for board games and cards. Overall, the pub has an atmosphere that is warmed by its regular patrons and the kindness of a tightknit community that has embraced Slainte Public House as a beloved fixture of Georgetown.

The Nunnns understand that their role in the community extends beyond the walls of Slainte Public House, therefore, the couple has opened their doors to many charitable organizations and causes. Today, the pub sponsors the Finley 5K, Kaden's Cause, Scott County Youth Baseball, the Gathering Place Mission, the Amen House, and Elizabeth's Village. They also have a Charity of the Month Program where donations to different charities are made through sample sales and customer donations. The Nunnns also host fundraisers for various nonprofits, and their pub serves as a meeting place for various local groups, including Scott County firefighters and Bible study groups. In recognizing their contributions to the community Slainte Public House was awarded the 2017 New Business of the Year award by the Georgetown-Scott County Chamber of Commerce. Needless to say, the Nunnns' dream of giving back to their community what they witnessed in Ireland has come true, as Slainte Public House has become a beloved institution of Georgetown. Congratulations to Matt and Ashley Nunn along with the entire team at Slainte Public House. I look forward to seeing your continued growth and success in Kentucky.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Ridgway, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2021, the Secretary of the Senate, on December 1, 2022, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker had signed the following enrolled joint resolution:

H.J. Res. 100. Joint resolution to provide for a resolution with respect to the unresolved disputes between certain railroads represented by the National Carriers' Conference Committee of the National Railway Labor Conference and certain of their employees.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2021, the enrolled joint resolution was signed on December 1, 2022, during the adjournment of the Senate by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:02 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 231. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to develop guidance for firefighters and other emergency response personnel on best practices to protect them from exposure to PFAS and to limit and prevent the release of PFAS into the environment, and for other purposes.

S. 3115. A bill to remove the 4-year sunset from the Pro bono Work to Empower and Represent Act of 2018.

S. 3825. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3903 Melear Drive in Arlington, Texas, as the "Ron Wright Post Office Building".

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2521. An act to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct a study on the feasibility and advisability of furnishing doula services to certain veterans, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3372. An act to authorize implementation grants to community-based nonprofits to operate one-stop reentry centers.

H.R. 4601. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of

Veterans Affairs to award grants to States to improve outreach to veterans, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4772. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the application and review process of the Department of Veterans Affairs for clothing allowance claims submitted by veterans, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4785. An act to support the human rights of Uyghurs and members of other minority groups residing primarily in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region and safeguard their distinct identity, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4899. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 10 Broadway Street West, in Akeley, Minnesota, as the “Neal Kenneth Todd Post Office”.

H.R. 5943. An act to designate the outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Greenville, South Carolina, as the “Lance Corporal Dana Cornell Darnell VA Clinic”.

H.R. 6878. An act to address the health needs of incarcerated women related to pregnancy and childbirth, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7158. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enter into contracts and agreements for the payment of care in non-Department of Veterans Affairs medical foster homes for certain veterans who are unable to live independently, and for other purposes.

H.R. 8203. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 651 Business Interstate Highway 35 North Suite 420 in New Braunfels, Texas, as the “Bob Krueger Post Office”.

H.R. 8876. An act to reauthorize the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 9308. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6401 El Cajon Boulevard in San Diego, California, as the “Susan A. Davis Post Office”.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 2521. To require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct a study on the feasibility and advisability of furnishing doula services to certain veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 3372. An act to authorize implementation grants to community-based nonprofits to operate one-stop reentry centers; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 4601. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to award grants to States to improve outreach to veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 4772. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the application and review process of the Department of Veterans Affairs for clothing allowance claims submitted by veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 4785. An act to support the human rights of Uyghurs and members of other minority groups residing primarily in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region and safeguard their distinct identity, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 4899. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located

at 10 Broadway Street West, in Akeley, Minnesota, as the “Neal Kenneth Todd Post Office”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 5943. To designate the outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Greenville, South Carolina, as the “Lance Corporal Dana Cornell Darnell VA Clinic”; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 6878. An act to address the health needs of incarcerated women related to pregnancy and childbirth, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 7158. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enter into contracts and agreements for the payment of care in non-Department of Veterans Affairs medical foster homes for certain veterans who are unable to live independently, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 8203. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 651 Business Interstate Highway 35 North Suite 420 in New Braunfels, Texas, as the “Bob Krueger Post Office”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 8876. An act to reauthorize the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 9308. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6401 El Cajon Boulevard in San Diego, California, as the “Susan A. Davis Post Office”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 2915. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 regarding the procurement of certain items related to national security interests for Department of Homeland Security frontline operational components, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7331. An act to require the Comptroller General of the United States to provide certain information with respect to unimplemented priority recommendations as part of the Comptroller General's annual reporting to Congress, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, December 5, 2022, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bills:

S. 3369. An act to designate the medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs in metropolitan Atlanta, Georgia, as the “Joseph Maxwell Cleland Atlanta Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center”.

S. 4359. An act to designate the regional office of the Department of Veterans Affairs in metropolitan Atlanta as the “Senator Johnny Isakson Department of Veterans Affairs Atlanta Regional Office”, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-5611. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a certification that the export of the listed items to the People's Republic of China is not detrimental to the U.S. space launch industry; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5612. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 14059 with respect to international illicit drug trafficking; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5613. A communication from the Senior Congressional Liaison, Legislative Affairs, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “2022 College Banking and Credit Card Agreements”; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5614. A communication from the Special Assistant to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Debit Card Interchange Fees and Routing” (RIN7100-AG15) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 7, 2022; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5615. A communication from the Special Assistant to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Framework for the Supervision of Insurance Organizations” (Docket No. OP-1765) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 7, 2022; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5616. A communication from the Special Assistant to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Consumer Leasing (Regulation M)” (RIN7100-AG41) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 7, 2022; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5617. A communication from the Special Assistant to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Truth in Lending (Regulation Z)” (RIN7100-AG42) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 7, 2022; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5618. A communication from the Special Assistant to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Appraisals for Higher-Priced Mortgage Loans Exemption Threshold” (RIN7100-AG43) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 7, 2022; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5619. A communication from the Senior Legal Advisor for Regulatory Affairs, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Privacy Act Regulations” (RIN1505-AC80) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 7, 2022; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5620. A communication from the Senior Congressional Liaison, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Truth in Lending (Regulation Z)” (12 CFR Part 1026) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of

the Senate on November 7, 2022; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5621. A communication from the Senior Congressional Liaison, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Appraisals for Higher-Priced Mortgage Loans Exemption Threshold" (12 CFR Part 1026) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 7, 2022; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5622. A communication from the Senior Congressional Liaison, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Consumer Leasing (Regulation M)" (12 CFR Part 1013) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 7, 2022; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5623. A communication from the Director of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Assessments, Revised Deposit Insurance Assessment Rates" (RIN3064-AF83) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 7, 2022; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5624. A communication from the Director of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Assessments, Amendments to Incorporate Troubled Debt Restructuring" (RIN3064-AF85) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 7, 2022; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 2135. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to require the Chief Operating Officer of each agency to compile a list of unnecessary programs, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-216).

S. 2483. A bill to require the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency to establish cybersecurity guidance for small organizations, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-217).

S. 3650. A bill to require the Director of the Office of Personnel Management to establish and maintain a public directory of the individuals occupying Government policy and supporting positions, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-218).

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

S. 4516. A bill to require the Office of Federal Procurement Policy to develop governmentwide procurement policy and guidance to mitigate organizational conflict of interests relating to national security and foreign policy, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-219).

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with amendments:

S. 4572. A bill to require U.S. Customs and Border Protection to expand the use of non-intrusive inspection systems at land ports of entry (Rept. No. 117-220).

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Af-

fairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 4645. A bill to restrict the flow of illicit drugs into the United States, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-221).

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment:

S. 4656. A bill to reauthorize and amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to create stronger accountability mechanisms for Joint Task Forces (Rept. No. 117-222).

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 4908. A bill to improve the visibility, accountability, and oversight of agency software asset management practices, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-223).

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and an amendment to the title:

H.R. 3544. An act to require the Administrator of General Services to transfer certain surplus computers and technology equipment to nonprofit computer refurbishers for repair, distribution, and return, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-224).

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with amendments:

H.R. 408. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish a mentor-prot program, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-225).

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

H.R. 2662. An act to amend the Inspector General Act of 1978, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-226).

S. 732. A bill to strengthen Buy American requirements, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-227).

S. 4000. A bill to require the establishment of cybersecurity information sharing agreements between the Department of Homeland Security and Congress, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-228).

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment:

S. 4326. A bill to authorize the Director of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement to pay stipends to members of Transnational Criminal Investigative Units who have been properly vetted (Rept. No. 117-229).

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:

Report to accompany H.R. 5615, An act to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to submit a plan to make Federal assistance available to certain urban areas that previously received Urban Area Security Initiative funding to preserve homeland security capabilities, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-230).

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

H.R. 370. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to make technical corrections to the requirement that the Secretary of Homeland Security submit quadrennial homeland security reviews, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-231).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. TESTER (for himself and Mr. MORAN):

S. 5181. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make certain improvements relating to mental health and suicide prevention outreach to minority veterans and American Indian and Alaska Native veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. Kaine (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. HAGERTY):

S. 5182. A bill to direct the United States government to support extending the mandate of the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Venezuela until a resolution of the Venezuelan crisis is achieved; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself and Mr. CRAMER):

S. 5183. A bill to amend the Federal Credit Union Act to provide a sunset for certain ways in which credit unions may be Agent members of the National Credit Union Administration Central Liquidity Facility; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself and Mr. HICKENLOOPER):

S. 5184. A bill to promote registered apprenticeships and on-the-job training for small and medium-sized businesses within in-demand industry sectors, through the establishment and support of eligible partnerships; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CARPER (for himself and Mr. GRAHAM):

S. 5185. A bill to amend the Coastal Barrier Resources Act to make improvements to that Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Ms. WARREN:

S. 5186. A bill to ensure progress toward the fulfillment by the Federal Government of its trust and treaty obligations to Native Americans and Tribal governments, to ensure funding for programs for Native Americans and Tribal governments, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself and Mr. PETERS):

S. 5187. A bill to amend the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States to provide a uniform 8-digit subheading number for all whiskies; to the Committee on Finance.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BENNET, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BURR, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CASEY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CRUZ, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HAGERTY, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. KING, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. MORAN, Mr. RISC, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Ms. SMITH, Mr. THUNE, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WICKER, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, and Mrs. FISCHER):

S. Res. 858. A resolution expressing support for the goals of National Adoption Day and National Adoption Month by promoting national awareness of adoption and the children awaiting families, celebrating children and families involved in adoption, and encouraging the people of the United States to

secure safety, permanency, and well-being for all children; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 190

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 190, a bill to amend chapter 44 of title 18, United States Code, to require the safe storage of firearms, and for other purposes.

S. 403

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 403, a bill to preserve open competition and Federal Government neutrality towards the labor relations of Federal Government contractors on Federal and federally funded construction projects, and for other purposes.

S. 605

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 605, a bill to reduce the number of preventable deaths and injuries caused by underride crashes, to improve motor carrier and passenger motor vehicle safety, and for other purposes.

S. 765

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 765, a bill to improve United States consideration of, and strategic support for, programs to prevent and respond to gender-based violence from the onset of humanitarian emergencies and to build the capacity of humanitarian actors to address the immediate and long-term challenges resulting from such violence, and for other purposes.

S. 868

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS), the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) were added as cosponsors of S. 868, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to eliminate the five-month waiting period for disability insurance benefits under such title and waive the 24-month waiting period for Medicare eligibility for individuals with Huntington's disease.

S. 1079

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1079, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the troops from the United States and the Philippines who defended Bataan and Corregidor, in recognition of their personal sacrifice and service during World War II.

S. 2014

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2014, a bill to permit legally married same-sex couples to

amend their filing status for tax returns outside the statute of limitations.

S. 2130

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2130, a bill to modify the disposition of certain outer Continental Shelf revenues and to open Federal financial sharing to heighten opportunities for renewable energy, and for other purposes.

S. 2457

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2457, a bill to maintain the free flow of information to the public by establishing appropriate limits on the federally compelled disclosure of information obtained as part of engaging in journalism, and for other purposes.

S. 2683

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2683, a bill to amend title XXXIII of the Public Health Service Act with respect to flexibility and funding for the World Trade Center Health Program, and for other purposes.

S. 2757

At the request of Ms. SMITH, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2757, a bill to amend the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act to allow the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into self-determination contracts with Indian Tribes and Tribal organizations to carry out supplemental nutritional assistance programs.

S. 2819

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2819, a bill to provide a process for ensuring the United States does not default on its obligations.

S. 3334

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3334, a bill to extend the authority for the establishment of a commemorative work to honor enslaved and free black persons who served in the American Revolution, and for other purposes.

S. 3386

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3386, a bill to prevent, treat, and cure tuberculosis globally.

S. 3421

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3421, a bill to clarify that section 107 of the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act applies sanctions with respect to unmanned combat aerial vehicles fol-

lowing a 2019 change by the United Nations providing additional clarity to the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms.

S. 3508

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3508, a bill to posthumously award a congressional gold medal to Constance Baker Motley.

S. 4117

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4117, a bill to make available additional frequencies in the 3.1-3.45 GHz band for non-Federal use, shared Federal and non-Federal use, or a combination thereof, and for other purposes.

S. 4441

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) and the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) were added as cosponsors of S. 4441, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide for peer support specialists for claimants who are survivors of military sexual trauma, and for other purposes.

S. 4587

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER), the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY), the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO), the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) were added as cosponsors of S. 4587, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Benjamin Berell Ferencz, in recognition of his service to the United States and international community during the post-World War II Nuremberg trials and lifelong advocacy for international criminal justice and rule of law.

S. 5070

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5070, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to provide grants to States to address contamination by perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances on farms, and for other purposes.

S. 5085

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5085, a bill to prohibit the government of the District of Columbia from using Federal funds to allow individuals who are not citizens of the United States to vote in any election and for other purposes.

S. 5155

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5155, a bill to establish the Proprietary Education Interagency Oversight Coordination Committee and facilitate the disclosure and reporting of information regarding complaints and investigations related to proprietary institutions of higher education eligible to receive Federal education assistance.

S. CON. RES. 47

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 47, a concurrent resolution commending the bravery, courage, and resolve of the women and men of Iran demonstrating in more than 80 cities and risking their safety to speak out against the Iranian regime's human rights abuses.

S. RES. 757

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 757, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate in support of the peaceful democratic and economic aspirations of the Sri Lankan people.

S. RES. 837

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 837, a resolution recognizing Israeli-American culture and heritage, the contributions of the Israeli-American community to the United States, and condemning antisemitic violence and discrimination.

AMENDMENT NO. 5530

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 5530 intended to be proposed to H.R. 7900, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2023 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 5531

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 5531 intended to be proposed to H.R. 7900, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2023 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself and Mr. CRAMER):

S. 5183. A bill to amend the Federal Credit Union Act to provide a sunset

for certain ways in which credit unions may be Agent members of the National Credit Union Administration Central Liquidity Facility; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Mr. PADILLA. Mr. President, I rise to speak in support of the bill that I introduced today to help ensure the financial stability of smaller credit unions.

Congress created the Central Liquidity Facility in 1978 to improve the general financial stability of credit unions by serving as a liquidity lender to credit unions experiencing unusual or unexpected liquidity shortfalls.

Unfortunately, under current law, smaller credit unions often do not have access to the critical tool that could help them address liquidity shortfalls, especially amid higher interest rates.

That is why I am proud to introduce this bipartisan legislation with Senator CRAMER to allow corporate credit unions to buy Central Liquidity Facility capital stock for a chosen subset of its members rather than all of its members for the next 5 years. This would provide greater flexibility for smaller unions to use the Central Liquidity Facility's services.

I hope my colleagues will join me in support of this bill to meet the needs of our Nation's 5,000 credit unions and the communities they serve.

By Mr. CARPER (for himself and Mr. GRAHAM):

S. 5185. A bill to amend the Coastal Barrier Resources Act to make improvements to that Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, today I am pleased to introduce along with the Senator from South Carolina, Mr. Graham, the Strengthening Coastal Communities Act of 2022.

The Strengthening Coastal Communities Act of 2022 amends the Coastal Barrier Resources Act and codifies maps to update and add units to the Coastal Barrier Resources System. Congress first passed the bipartisan Coastal Barrier Resources Act in 1982, due in no small part to the hard work of former Congressman Tom Evans from Delaware. Today, the Coastal Barrier Resources System consists of 588 system units, which are areas of low and undeveloped coastal land along the Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico, Great Lakes, U.S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico coasts. There are also 282 otherwise protected areas in the system, which are used primarily for conservation and recreation purposes. Together, this is 3.5 million acres of land and associated aquatic habitat. These units and areas are important not only because they protect habitat vital to our Nation's wildlife but because conserving sensitive coastal habitats also protects our coastal communities—our homes, businesses, and infrastructure—from flooding.

The Strengthening Coastal Communities Act represents a proactive step

toward more resilient coastlines across our Nation. We need to prioritize the protection of our coastlines ahead of the next storm instead of in response to it. Doing so will make our coastal communities better able to withstand extreme weather events in the face of a changing climate.

The legislation I am introducing today would codify 195 updated or new maps that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has transmitted to Congress for the Coastal Barrier Resources System. This bill also includes some minor amendments to the Coastal Barrier Resources Act to improve Agency implementation of the Act. In addition, the bill authorizes \$5 million in appropriations annually for the Coastal Barrier Resources Act for fiscal years 2023 through 2027. This increase from the last appropriation authorization of \$2 million is well-justified by the long-term coastal resilience value generated by the program. This program also saves taxpayer dollars by restricting the use of Federal funding in the sensitive areas that comprise the Coast a Barrier Resources System. This reauthorization has clear benefits for our environment and economy—a win-win for Delaware and our Nation.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to enact this important legislation this Congress. I ask unanimous consent that a copy of the bill I am introducing today be printed in the RECORD following my statement.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 5185

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "Strengthening Coastal Communities Act of 2022".

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—COASTAL BARRIER RESOURCES ACT AMENDMENTS

Sec. 101. Definitions.

Sec. 102. Coastal hazard pilot project.

Sec. 103. John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System.

Sec. 104. Nonapplicability of prohibitions to otherwise protected areas and structures in new additions to the System.

Sec. 105. Require disclosure to prospective buyers that property is in the Coastal Barrier Resources System.

Sec. 106. Emergency exceptions to limitations on expenditures.

Sec. 107. Improve Federal agency compliance with Coastal Barrier Resources Act.

Sec. 108. Authorization of appropriations.

TITLE II—CHANGES TO JOHN H. CHAFEE COASTAL BARRIER RESOURCES SYSTEM MAPS

Sec. 201. Changes to John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System maps.

TITLE I—COASTAL BARRIER RESOURCES ACT AMENDMENTS

SEC. 101. DEFINITIONS.

Section 3 of the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3502) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “means” and inserting “includes”;

(B) in subparagraph (A)—

(i) in the matter preceding clause (i), by inserting “bluff,” after “barrier spit,”; and

(ii) in clause (ii), by inserting “and related lands” after “aquatic habitats”;

(C) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “, including areas that are and will be vulnerable to coastal hazards, such as flooding, storm surge, wind, erosion, and sea level rise” after “nearshore waters”; and

(D) in the matter following subparagraph (B), by striking “, and man’s activities on such features and within such habitats,”;

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (5) through (7) as paragraphs (6) through (8), respectively; and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (4) the following:

“(5) OTHERWISE PROTECTED AREA.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘Otherwise Protected Area’ means any unit of the System that, at the time of designation, was predominantly composed of areas established under Federal, State, or local law, or held by a qualified organization, primarily for wildlife refuge, sanctuary, recreational, or natural resource conservation purposes.

“(B) QUALIFIED ORGANIZATION.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the term ‘qualified organization’ has the meaning given the term in section 170(h)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.”

SEC. 102. COASTAL HAZARD PILOT PROJECT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) PROJECT.—The Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the heads of appropriate State coastal zone management agencies, shall carry out a coastal hazard pilot project to propose definitions and criteria and produce maps of areas, including coastal mainland areas, which could be added to the John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System established by section 4(a) of the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3503(a)) that are and will be vulnerable to coastal hazards, such as flooding, storm surge, wind, erosion and sea level rise, and areas to which barriers and associated habitats are likely to migrate or be lost as sea level rises.

(2) NUMBER OF UNITS.—The project carried out under this section shall consist of the creation of maps for at least 10 percent of the System and may also identify additional new System units.

(b) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives a report describing the results of the pilot project and the proposed definitions and criteria and costs of completing maps for the entire System.

(2) CONTENTS.—The report shall include a description of—

(A) the final recommended maps created under the coastal hazard pilot project;

(B) recommendations for the adoption of the final recommended maps created under this section by Congress;

(C) a summary of the comments received from the Governors of the States, other government officials, and the public regarding the definitions, criteria, and draft maps;

(D) a description of the criteria used for the project and any related recommendations; and

(E) the amount of funding necessary for completing maps for the entire System.

(c) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary shall prepare the report required under subsection (b)—

(1) in consultation with the Governors of the States in which any newly identified areas are located; and

(2) after—

(A) providing an opportunity for the submission of public comments; and

(B) considering any public comments submitted under subparagraph (A).

SEC. 103. JOHN H. CHAFEE COASTAL BARRIER RESOURCES SYSTEM.

(a) TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.—Section 4 of the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3503) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting “as System units and Otherwise Protected Areas” after “generally depicted”; and

(2) in subsection (f)(2), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “copy of the map” and inserting “notification of the availability of the map”.

(b) EXCESS FEDERAL PROPERTY.—Section 4(e) of the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3503(e)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(3) DEFINITION OF UNDEVELOPED COASTAL AREA.—Notwithstanding section 3(1) and subsection (g), in this subsection the term ‘undeveloped coastal barrier’ means any coastal barrier regardless of the degree of development.”

SEC. 104. NONAPPLICABILITY OF PROHIBITIONS TO OTHERWISE PROTECTED AREAS AND STRUCTURES IN NEW ADDITIONS TO THE SYSTEM.

Section 5 of the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3504) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting “subsections (c) and (d) and” after “Except as provided in”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(c) APPLICABILITY TO OTHERWISE PROTECTED AREAS.—Consistent with the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990 (Public Law 101–591; 104 Stat. 2931), except for limitations on new flood insurance coverage described in section 1321 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4028), the prohibitions on Federal expenditures and financial assistance described in subsection (a) shall not apply within Otherwise Protected Areas.

“(d) PROHIBITIONS AFFECTING EXISTING INSURABLE STRUCTURES WITHIN THE SYSTEM.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—With respect to additions to the System made on or after the date of enactment of the Strengthening Coastal Communities Act of 2022 but subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), the prohibitions on new expenditures and new financial assistance under subsection (a) shall take effect on the date that is 1 year after the date on which the addition to the System was made.

“(2) EXISTING STRUCTURES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—An insurable structure described in subparagraph (B) shall remain eligible for new Federal expenditures and new Federal financial assistance.

“(B) INSURABLE STRUCTURE DESCRIBED.—An insurable structure referred to in subparagraph (A) is an insurable structure that is—

“(i) located within a new addition to the System made on or after the date of enactment of the Strengthening Coastal Communities Act of 2022; and

“(ii) in existence before the expiration of the applicable 1-year period described in paragraph (1).

“(3) INSURABLE STRUCTURES IN OTHERWISE PROTECTED AREAS.—Notwithstanding any other provision in this section, new Federal expenditures and financial assistance may be provided for insurable structures in Otherwise Protected Areas that are used in a manner consistent with the purpose for which the area is protected.”

SEC. 105. REQUIRE DISCLOSURE TO PROSPECTIVE BUYERS THAT PROPERTY IS IN THE COASTAL BARRIER RESOURCES SYSTEM.

Section 5 of the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3504) (as amended by section 104(2)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(e) DISCLOSURE OF LIMITATIONS.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of the Strengthening Coastal Communities Act of 2022, the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, shall promulgate regulations that, with respect to real property located in an affected community, as determined by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, that is offered for sale or lease, require disclosure that the real property is located within a community affected by this Act.”

SEC. 106. EMERGENCY EXCEPTIONS TO LIMITATIONS ON EXPENDITURES.

Section 6(a)(6) of the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3505(a)(6)) is amended by striking subparagraph (E) and inserting the following:

“(E) Emergency actions necessary to the saving of lives and the protection of property and the public health and safety, if such actions are performed pursuant to sections 402, 403, 407, and 502 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170a, 5170b, 5173, 5192) and are limited to actions that are necessary to alleviate the emergency.”

SEC. 107. IMPROVE FEDERAL AGENCY COMPLIANCE WITH COASTAL BARRIER RESOURCES ACT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7(a) of the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3506(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking “the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990” and inserting “the Strengthening Coastal Communities Act of 2022”; and

(2) by striking “promulgate regulations” and inserting “revise or promulgate regulations and guidance, as necessary.”

(b) TECHNICAL CORRECTION.—Section 3(2) of the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3502(2)) is amended by striking “Committee on Resources” and inserting “Committee on Natural Resources”.

SEC. 108. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 10 of the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3510) is amended by striking “\$2,000,000” and all that follows through the period at the end of the sentence and inserting “\$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2023 through 2027.”

TITLE II—CHANGES TO JOHN H. CHAFEE COASTAL BARRIER RESOURCES SYSTEM MAPS

SEC. 201. CHANGES TO JOHN H. CHAFEE COASTAL BARRIER RESOURCES SYSTEM MAPS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) REPLACEMENT MAPS.—Each map included in the set of maps referred to in section 4(a) of the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3503(a)) that relates to a unit of the John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System established by that section referred to in subsection (b) is replaced in such set with the map described in that subsection with respect to that unit and any

other new or reclassified units depicted on that map panel.

(2) **NEW MAPS.**—The set of maps referred to in section 4(a) of the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3503(a)) is amended to include the new maps described in subsection (c).

(b) **REPLACEMENT MAPS DESCRIBED.**—The replacement maps referred to in subsection (a)(1) are the following:

(1) The map entitled “Salisbury Beach Unit MA-01P Plum Island Unit MA-02P (1 of 2)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(2) The map entitled “Clark Pond Unit C00 Plum Island Unit MA-02P (2 of 2) Castle Neck Unit MA-03 Wingaersheek Unit C01 (1 of 2)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(3) The map entitled “Wingaersheek Unit C01 (2 of 2) Good Harbor Beach/Milk Island Beach Unit C01A Cape Hedge Beach Unit MA-48 Brace Cove Unit C01B” and dated December 18, 2020.

(4) The map entitled “West Beach Unit MA-04 Phillips Beach Unit MA-06” and dated December 18, 2020.

(5) The map entitled “Snake Island Unit MA-08P, Squantum Unit MA-09P Merrymount Park Unit MA-10P West Head Beach Unit C01C/C01CP Peddocks/Rainsford Island Unit MA-11/MA-11P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(6) The map entitled “Cohasset Harbor Unit MA-12 North Scituate Unit C02P Rivermoor Unit C03” and dated December 18, 2020.

(7) The map entitled “Rexhame Unit C03A Duxbury Beach Unit MA-13/MA-13P (1 of 2)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(8) The map entitled “Duxbury Beach Unit MA-13/MA-13P (2 of 2) Plymouth Bay Unit C04” and dated December 18, 2020.

(9) The map entitled “Center Hill Complex C06 Scusset Beach Unit MA-38P Town Neck Unit MA-14P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(10) The map entitled “Scorton Unit C08 Sandy Neck Unit C09/C09P (1 of 2)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(11) The map entitled “Sandy Neck Unit C09/C09P (2 of 2) Chapin Beach Unit MA-15P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(12) The map entitled “Nobscusset Unit MA-16 Freemans Pond Unit C10” and dated December 18, 2020.

(13) The map entitled “Provincetown Unit MA-19P (1 of 2)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(14) The map entitled “Provincetown Unit MA-19P (2 of 2) Pamet Harbor Unit MA-18AP Ballston Beach Unit MA-18P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(15) The map entitled “Griffin/Great Islands Complex MA-17P Lieutenant Island Unit MA-17AP” and dated December 18, 2020.

(16) The map entitled “Namskaket Spits Unit C11/C11P Boat Meadow Unit C11A/C11AP Nauset Beach/Monomoy Unit MA-20P (1 of 3)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(17) The map entitled “Nauset Beach/Monomoy Unit MA-20P (2 of 3) Harding Beach Unit MA-40P Chatham Roads Unit C12/C12P Red River Beach Unit MA-41P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(18) The map entitled “Nauset Beach/Monomoy Unit MA-20P (3 of 3)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(19) The map entitled “Davis Beach Unit MA-23P Lewis Bay Unit C13/C13P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(20) The map entitled “Squaw Island Unit C14 Centerville Unit C15/C15P Dead Neck Unit C16 (1 of 2)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(21) The map entitled “Dead Neck Unit C16 (2 of 2) Popponesset Spit Unit C17 Waquoit Bay Unit C18 Falmouth Ponds Unit C18A” and dated December 18, 2020.

(22) The map entitled “Quissett Beach/Falmouth Beach Unit MA-42P Black Beach Unit C19, Little Sippewisset Marsh Unit C19P

Chapoquoit Beach Unit MA-43/MA-43P Her-ring Brook Unit MA-30” and dated December 18, 2020.

(23) The map entitled “Squeteague Harbor Unit MA-31 Bassetts Island Unit MA-32 Phinneys Harbor Unit MA-33 Buzzards Bay Complex C19A (1 of 3)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(24) The map entitled “Buzzards Bay Complex C19AP (2 of 3) Planting Island Unit MA-35” and dated December 18, 2020.

(25) The map entitled “Buzzards Bay Complex C19A (3 of 3) West Sconticut Neck Unit C31A/C31AP Little Bay Unit MA-47P Harbor View Unit C31B” and dated December 18, 2020.

(26) The map entitled “Round Hill Unit MA-36, Mishaum Point Unit C32 Demarest Lloyd Park Unit MA-37P Little Beach Unit C33 (1 of 2) Round Hill Point Unit MA-45P, Teal Pond Unit MA-46” and dated December 18, 2020.

(27) The map entitled “Little Beach Unit C33 (2 of 2) Horseneck Beach Unit C34/C34P Richmond/Cockeast Ponds Unit C35” and dated December 18, 2020.

(28) The map entitled “Coatue Unit C20/C20P (1 of 2) Sesachacha Pond Unit C21” and dated December 18, 2020.

(29) The map entitled “Coatue Unit C20/C20P (2 of 2) Cisco Beach Unit C22P Esther Island Complex C23/23P (1 of 2) Tuckernuck Island Unit C24 (1 of 2)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(30) The map entitled “Esther Island Complex C23 (2 of 2) Tuckernuck Island Unit C24 (2 of 2) Muskeget Island Unit C25” and dated December 18, 2020.

(31) The map entitled “Harthaven Unit MA-26, Edgartown Beach Unit MA-27P Trapps Pond Unit MA-27, Eel Pond Beach Unit C26 Cape Poge Unit C27, Norton Point Unit MA-28P South Beach Unit C28 (1 of 2)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(32) The map entitled “South Beach Unit C28 (2 of 2)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(33) The map entitled “Squibnocket Complex C29/C29P Nomans Land Unit MA-29P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(34) The map entitled “James Pond Unit C29A Mink Meadows Unit C29B Naushon Island Complex MA-24 (1 of 2)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(35) The map entitled “Naushon Island Complex MA-24 (2 of 2) Elizabeth Island Unit C31 (1 of 2)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(36) The map entitled “Elizabeth Island Unit C31 (2 of 2) Penikese Island Unit MA-25P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(37) The map entitled “Cedar Cove Unit C34A” and dated December 18, 2020.

(38) The map entitled “Little Compton Ponds Unit D01 Tunipus Pond Unit D01P Brown Point Unit RI-01” and dated December 18, 2020.

(39) The map entitled “Fogland Marsh Unit D02/D02P, Sapowet Point Unit RI-02/RI-02P McCorrie Point Unit RI-02A Sandy Point Unit RI-03P Prudence Island Complex D02B/D02BP (1 of 3)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(40) The map entitled “Prudence Island Complex D02B/D02BP (2 of 3)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(41) The map entitled “Prudence Island Complex D02B/D02BP (3 of 3)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(42) The map entitled “West Narragansett Bay Complex D02C” and dated December 18, 2020.

(43) The map entitled “Fox Hill Marsh Unit RI-08/RI-08P Bonnet Shores Beach Unit RI-09 Narragansett Beach Unit RI-10/RI-10P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(44) The map entitled “Seaweed Beach Unit RI-11P East Matunuck Beach Unit RI-12P Point Judith Unit RI-14P, Card Ponds Unit D03/D03P Green Hill Beach Unit D04 (1 of 2)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(45) The map entitled “Green Hill Beach Unit D04 (2 of 2) East Beach Unit D05P Quonochontaug Beach Unit D06/D06P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(46) The map entitled “Misquamicut Beach Unit RI-13P Maschaug Ponds Unit D07 Napatree Unit D08/D08P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(47) The map entitled “Block Island Unit D09/D09P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(48) The map entitled “Wilcox Beach Unit E01 Ram Island Unit E01A Mason Island Unit CT-01” and dated December 18, 2020.

(49) The map entitled “Bluff Point Unit CT-02 Goshen Cove Unit E02” and dated December 18, 2020.

(50) The map entitled “Jordan Cove Unit E03, Niantic Bay Unit E03A Old Black Point Unit CT-03, Hatchett Point Unit CT-04 Little Pond Unit CT-05, Mile Creek Unit CT-06” and dated December 18, 2020.

(51) The map entitled “Griswold Point Unit CT-07 Lynde Point Unit E03B Cold Spring Brook Unit CT-08” and dated December 18, 2020.

(52) The map entitled “Menunketesuck Island Unit E04 Hammonasset Point Unit E05 Toms Creek Unit CT-10 Seaview Beach Unit CT-11” and dated December 18, 2020.

(53) The map entitled “Lindsey Cove Unit CT-12 Kelsey Island Unit CT-13 Nathan Hale Park Unit CT-14P Morse Park Unit CT-15P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(54) The map entitled “Milford Point Unit E07 Long Beach Unit CT-18P Fayerweather Island Unit E08AP” and dated December 18, 2020.

(55) The map entitled “Norwalk Islands Unit E09/E09P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(56) The map entitled “Jamaica Bay Unit NY-60P (1 of 2)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(57) The map entitled “Jamaica Bay Unit NY-60P (2 of 2)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(58) The map entitled “Sands Point Unit NY-03 Prospect Point Unit NY-04P Dosoris Pond Unit NY-05P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(59) The map entitled “The Creek Beach Unit NY-06/NY-06P Centre Island Beach Unit NY-07P, Centre Island Unit NY-88 Lloyd Beach Unit NY-09P Lloyd Point Unit NY-10/NY-10P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(60) The map entitled “Lloyd Harbor Unit NY-11/NY-11P, Eatons Neck Unit F02 Hobart Beach Unit NY-13, Deck Island Harbor Unit NY-89 Centerpoint Harbor Unit NY-12, Crab Meadow Unit NY-14” and dated December 18, 2020.

(61) The map entitled “Sunken Meadow Unit NY-15/NY-15P Stony Brook Harbor Unit NY-16 (1 of 2)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(62) The map entitled “Stony Brook Harbor Unit NY-16/NY-16P (2 of 2) Crane Neck Unit F04P Old Field Beach Unit F05/F05P Cedar Beach Unit NY-17/NY-17P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(63) The map entitled “Wading River Unit NY-18 Baiting Hollow Unit NY-19P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(64) The map entitled “Luce Landing Unit NY-20P, Mattituck Inlet Unit NY-21P East Creek Unit NY-34P, Indian Island Unit NY-35P Flanders Bay Unit NY-36/NY-36P, Red Creek Pond Unit NY-37 Iron Point Unit NY-97P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(65) The map entitled “Goldsmith Inlet Unit NY-22P, Pipes Cove Unit NY-26 (1 of 2) Southold Bay Unit NY-28, Cedar Beach Point Unit NY-29P (1 of 2) Hog Neck Bay Unit NY-30 Peconic Dunes Unit NY-90P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(66) The map entitled “Little Creek Unit NY-31/NY-31P, Cutchogue Harbor Unit NY-31A Downs Creek Unit NY-32, Robins Island Unit NY-33 Squire Pond Unit NY-38, Cow Neck Unit NY-39 North Sea Harbor Unit NY-40/NY-40P, Cold Spring Pond Unit NY-92” and dated December 18, 2020.

(67) The map entitled “Truman Beach Unit NY-23/NY-23P Orient Beach Unit NY-25P Hay Beach Point Unit NY-47” and dated December 18, 2020.

(68) The map entitled “F06, NY-26 (2 of 2), NY-27, NY-29P (2 of 2), NY-41P NY-42, NY-43/NY-43P, NY-44, NY-45 NY-46, NY-48, NY-49, NY-50 NY-51P, NY-93, NY-94, NY-95P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(69) The map entitled “Gardiners Island Barriers Unit F09 (1 of 2) Plum Island Unit NY-24” and dated December 18, 2020.

(70) The map entitled “Sammys Beach Unit F08A, Accabonac Harbor Unit F08B Gardiners Island Barriers Unit F09 (2 of 2) Napeague Unit F10P (1 of 2), Hog Creek Unit NY-52 Amagansett Unit NY-56/NY-56P, Bell Park Unit NY-96P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(71) The map entitled “Fisher Island Barriers Unit F01” and dated December 18, 2020.

(72) The map entitled “Big Reed Pond Unit NY-53P Oyster Pond Unit NY-54P Montauk Point Unit NY-55P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(73) The map entitled “Napeague Unit F10/F10P (2 of 2)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(74) The map entitled “Mecox Unit F11 Georgica/Wainscott Ponds Unit NY-57 Sagaponack Pond Unit NY-58/NY-58P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(75) The map entitled “Southampton Beach Unit F12 Tiana Beach Unit F13/F13P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(76) The map entitled “Fire Island Unit NY-59P (1 of 6)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(77) The map entitled “Fire Island Unit NY-59P (2 of 6)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(78) The map entitled “Fire Island Unit NY-59P (3 of 6)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(79) The map entitled “Fire Island Unit NY-59/NY-59P (4 of 6)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(80) The map entitled “Fire Island Unit NY-59/NY-59P (5 of 6)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(81) The map entitled “Fire Island Unit NY-59/NY-59P (6 of 6)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(82) The map entitled “Sandy Hook Unit NJ-01P Monmouth Cove Unit NJ-17P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(83) The map entitled “Navesink/Shrewsbury Complex NJ-04A/NJ-04AP” and dated December 18, 2020.

(84) The map entitled “Metedeconk Neck Unit NJ-04B/NJ-04BP” and dated December 18, 2020.

(85) The map entitled “Island Beach Unit NJ-05P (1 of 2)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(86) The map entitled “Island Beach Unit NJ-05P (2 of 2)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(87) The map entitled “Cedar Bonnet Island Unit NJ-06/NJ-06P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(88) The map entitled “Brigantine Unit NJ-07P (1 of 4)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(89) The map entitled “Brigantine Unit NJ-07P (2 of 4)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(90) The map entitled “Brigantine Unit NJ-07P (3 of 4)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(91) The map entitled “Brigantine Unit NJ-07P (4 of 4)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(92) The map entitled “Corson’s Inlet Unit NJ-08P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(93) The map entitled “Stone Harbor Unit NJ-09/NJ-09P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(94) The map entitled “Two Mile Beach Unit NJ-20P Cape May Unit NJ-10P Higbee Beach Unit NJ-11P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(95) The map entitled “Sunray Beach Unit NJ-21P Del Haven Unit NJ-12/NJ-12P Kimbles Beach Unit NJ-13 Moores Beach Unit NJ-14/NJ-14P (1 of 3)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(96) The map entitled “Moores Beach Unit NJ-14/NJ-14P (2 of 3)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(97) The map entitled “Moores Beach Unit NJ-14/NJ-14P (3 of 3)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(98) The map entitled “Little Creek Unit DE-01/DE-01P (1 of 2) Broadkill Beach Unit H00/H00P (1 of 4)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(99) The map entitled “Broadkill Beach Unit H00/H00P (2 of 4)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(100) The map entitled “Broadkill Beach Unit H00/H00P (3 of 4)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(101) The map entitled “Broadkill Beach Unit H00/H00P (4 of 4) Beach Plum Island Unit DE-02P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(102) The map entitled “Cape Henlopen Unit DE-03P Silver Lake Unit DE-06” and dated December 18, 2020.

(103) The map entitled “Fenwick Island Unit DE-08P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(104) The map entitled “Bombay Hook Unit DE-11P (2 of 2) Little Creek Unit DE-01P (2 of 2)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(105) The map entitled “Assateague Island Unit MD-01P (1 of 3)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(106) The map entitled “Assateague Island Unit MD-01P (2 of 3)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(107) The map entitled “Assateague Island Unit MD-01P (3 of 3)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(108) The map entitled “Fair Island Unit MD-02 Sound Shore Unit MD-03/MD-03P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(109) The map entitled “Cedar/Janes Islands Unit MD-04P (1 of 2) Joes Cove Unit MD-06 (1 of 2)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(110) The map entitled “Cedar/Janes Islands Unit MD-04P (2 of 2) Joes Cove Unit MD-06 (2 of 2) Scott Point Unit MD-07P, Hazard Island Unit MD-08P St. Pierre Point Unit MD-09P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(111) The map entitled “Little Deal Island Unit MD-11 Deal Island Unit MD-12 Franks Island Unit MD-14/MD-14P Long Point Unit MD-15” and dated December 18, 2020.

(112) The map entitled “Stump Point Unit MD-16” and dated December 18, 2020.

(113) The map entitled “Martin Unit MD-17P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(114) The map entitled “Marsh Island Unit MD-18P Holland Island Unit MD-19” and dated December 18, 2020.

(115) The map entitled “Jenny Island Unit MD-20 Lower Hooper Island Unit MD-58” and dated December 18, 2020.

(116) The map entitled “Barren Island Unit MD-21P Meekins Neck Unit MD-59” and dated December 18, 2020.

(117) The map entitled “Hooper Point Unit MD-22 Covey Creek Unit MD-24” and dated December 18, 2020.

(118) The map entitled “Boone Creek Unit MD-26 Benoni Point Unit MD-27 Chlora Point Unit MD-60” and dated December 18, 2020.

(119) The map entitled “Lowes Point Unit MD-28 Rich Neck Unit MD-29 Kent Point Unit MD-30” and dated December 18, 2020.

(120) The map entitled “Stevensville Unit MD-32 Wesley Church Unit MD-33 Eastern Neck Island Unit MD-34P Wilson Point Unit MD-35” and dated December 18, 2020.

(121) The map entitled “Tanner Creek Unit MD-47 Point Lookout Unit MD-48P Potter Creek Unit MD-63 Biscoe Creek Unit MD-49” and dated December 18, 2020.

(122) The map entitled “Biscoe Pond Unit MD-61P, Carroll Pond Unit MD-62 St. Clarence Creek Unit MD-44 Deep Point Unit MD-45, Point Look-In Unit MD-46 Chicken Cock Creek Unit MD-50” and dated December 18, 2020.

(123) The map entitled “Drum Point Unit MD-39 Lewis Creek Unit MD-40 Green Holly Pond Unit MD-41” and dated December 18, 2020.

(124) The map entitled “Flag Ponds Unit MD-37P Cove Point Marsh Unit MD-38/MD-38P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(125) The map entitled “Cherryfield Unit MD-64, Piney Point Creek Unit MD-51 McKay Cove Unit MD-52, Blake Creek Unit MD-53 Belvedere Creek Unit MD-54” and dated December 18, 2020.

(126) The map entitled “St. Clements Island Unit MD-55P St. Catherine Island Unit MD-56” and dated December 18, 2020.

(127) The map entitled “Assateague Island Unit VA-01P (1 of 4)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(128) The map entitled “Assateague Island Unit VA-01P (2 of 4)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(129) The map entitled “Assateague Island Unit VA-01P (3 of 4)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(130) The map entitled “Assateague Island Unit VA-01P (4 of 4) Assawoman Island Unit VA-02P (1 of 3)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(131) The map entitled “Assawoman Island Unit VA-02P (2 of 3)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(132) The map entitled “Assawoman Island Unit VA-02P (3 of 3) Metompkin Island Unit VA-03P Cedar Island Unit K03 (1 of 3)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(133) The map entitled “Cedar Island Unit K03 (2 of 3) Parramore/Hog/Cobb Islands Unit VA-04P (1 of 5)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(134) The map entitled “Cedar Island Unit K03 (3 of 3) Parramore/Hog/Cobb Islands Unit VA-04P (2 of 5)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(135) The map entitled “Parramore/Hog/Cobb Islands Unit VA-04P (3 of 5)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(136) The map entitled “Parramore/Hog/Cobb Islands Unit VA-04P (4 of 5)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(137) The map entitled “Parramore/Hog/Cobb Islands Unit VA-04P (5 of 5) Little Cobb Island Unit K04 Wreck Island Unit VA-05P (1 of 4)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(138) The map entitled “Wreck Island Unit VA-05P (2 of 4)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(139) The map entitled “Wreck Island Unit VA-05P (3 of 4) Smith Island Unit VA-06P (1 of 3)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(140) The map entitled “Wreck Island Unit VA-05P (4 of 4) Smith Island Unit VA-06P (2 of 3) Fishermans Island Unit K05/K05P (1 of 2)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(141) The map entitled “Smith Island Unit VA-06P (3 of 3) Fishermans Island Unit K05/K05P (2 of 2)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(142) The map entitled “Elliotts Creek Unit VA-09 Old Plantation Creek Unit VA-10 Wescoat Point Unit VA-11” and dated December 18, 2020.

(143) The map entitled “Great Neck Unit VA-12 Westerhouse Creek Unit VA-13 Shooting Point Unit VA-14” and dated December 18, 2020.

(144) The map entitled “Scarborough Neck Unit VA-16/VA-16P Craddock Neck Unit VA-17/VA-17P (1 of 2)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(145) The map entitled “Craddock Neck Unit VA-17 (2 of 2) Hacks Neck Unit VA-18 Parkers/Finneys Islands Unit VA-19 Parkers Marsh Unit VA-20/VA-20P (1 of 3)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(146) The map entitled “Parkers Marsh Unit VA-20 (2 of 3) Beach Island Unit VA-21 (1 of 2) Russell Island Unit VA-22/VA-22P Simpson Bend Unit VA-23” and dated December 18, 2020.

(147) The map entitled “Parkers Marsh Unit VA-20/VA-20P (3 of 3) Beach Island Unit VA-21 (2 of 2) Watts Island Unit VA-27” and dated December 18, 2020.

(148) The map entitled “Drum Bay Unit VA-24” and dated December 18, 2020.

(149) The map entitled “Fox Islands Unit VA-25” and dated December 18, 2020.

(150) The map entitled “Cheeseman Island Unit VA-26” and dated December 18, 2020.

(151) The map entitled “Tangier Island Unit VA-28/VA-28P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(152) The map entitled “Elbow Point Unit VA-29 White Point Unit VA-30 Cabin Point Unit VA-31 Glebe Point Unit VA-32” and dated December 18, 2020.

(153) The map entitled “Sandy Point Unit VA-33 Judith Sound Unit VA-34” and dated December 18, 2020.

(154) The map entitled “Cod Creek Unit VA-35 Presley Creek Unit VA-36 Cordreys Beach Unit VA-37 Marshalls Beach Unit VA-38” and dated December 18, 2020.

(155) The map entitled “Ginny Beach Unit VA-39P, Gaskin Pond Unit VA-40 Owens Pond Unit VA-41, Chesapeake Beach Unit VA-42 Fleet Point Unit VA-43 Bussel Point Unit VA-44” and dated December 18, 2020.

(156) The map entitled “Harveys Creek Unit VA-45, Dameron Marsh Unit VA-63P Ingram Cove Unit VA-46 Bluff Point Neck Unit VA-47/VA-47P Barnes Creek Unit VA-48” and dated December 18, 2020.

(157) The map entitled “Little Bay Unit VA-64, North Point Unit VA-49 White Marsh Unit VA-65P, Windmill Point Unit VA-50 Deep Hole Point Unit VA-51, Sturgeon Creek Unit VA-52 Jackson Creek Unit VA-53” and dated December 18, 2020.

(158) The map entitled “Rigby Island/Bethal Beach Unit VA-55/VA-55P (1 of 2)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(159) The map entitled “Rigby Island/Bethal Beach Unit VA-55 (2 of 2) New Point Comfort Unit VA-56” and dated December 18, 2020.

(160) The map entitled “Lone Point Unit VA-66 Oldhouse Creek Unit VA-67 Ware Neck Unit VA-57 Severn River Unit VA-58 (1 of 2)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(161) The map entitled “Severn River Unit VA-58 (2 of 2) Bay Tree Beach Unit VA-68/VA-68P Plum Tree Island Unit VA-59P (1 of 2)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(162) The map entitled “Plum Tree Island Unit VA-59P (2 of 2) Long Creek Unit VA-60/VA-60P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(163) The map entitled “Cape Henry Unit VA-61P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(164) The map entitled “Back Bay Unit VA-62P (1 of 2)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(165) The map entitled “Back Bay Unit VA-62P (2 of 2)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(166) The map entitled “Onslow Beach Complex L05 (2 of 2) Topsail Unit L06 (1 of 2)” and dated April 30, 2021.

(167) The map entitled “Morris Island Unit M06/M06P” and dated April 29, 2021.

(168) The map entitled “Hunting Island Unit SC-09P (1 of 2) Harbor Island Unit M11 (1 of 2) St. Phillips Island Unit M12/M12P (1 of 3)” and dated April 29, 2021.

(169) The map entitled “Hunting Island Unit SC-09P (2 of 2) Harbor Island Unit M11 (2 of 2) St. Phillips Island Unit M12/M12P (2 of 3)” and dated April 29, 2021.

(170) The map entitled “St. Phillips Island Unit M12 (3 of 3)” and dated April 29, 2021.

(171) The map entitled “Grayton Beach Unit FL-95P Draper Lake Unit FL-96” and dated April 30, 2021.

(172) The map entitled “Moreno Point Unit P32/P32P” and dated April 29, 2021.

(173) The map entitled “Isle au Pitre Unit LA-01” and dated March 18, 2016.

(174) The map entitled “Half Moon Island Unit LA-02” and dated March 18, 2016.

(175) The map entitled “Timbalier Bay Unit S04 Timbalier Islands Unit S05 (1 of 3)” and dated March 18, 2016.

(176) The map entitled “Timbalier Islands Unit S05 (2 of 3)” and dated March 18, 2016.

(177) The map entitled “Timbalier Islands Unit S05 (3 of 3)” and dated March 18, 2016.

(178) The map entitled “Isles Dernieres Unit S06 (1 of 3)” and dated March 18, 2016.

(179) The map entitled “Isles Dernieres Unit S06 (2 of 3)” and dated March 18, 2016.

(180) The map entitled “Isles Dernieres Unit S06 (3 of 3)” and dated March 18, 2016.

(181) The map entitled “Point au Fer Unit S07 (1 of 4)” and dated March 18, 2016.

(182) The map entitled “Point au Fer Unit S07 (2 of 4)” and dated March 18, 2016.

(183) The map entitled “Point au Fer Unit S07 (3 of 4)” and dated March 18, 2016.

(184) The map entitled “Point au Fer Unit S07 (4 of 4)” and dated March 18, 2016.

(c) NEW MAPS DESCRIBED.—The new maps referred to in subsection (a)(2) are the following:

(1) The map entitled “Odiorne Point Unit NH-01P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(2) The map entitled “Guilford Harbor Unit CT-19P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(3) The map entitled “Silver Sands Unit CT-21P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(4) The map entitled “Calf Islands Unit CT-20P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(5) The map entitled “Malibu Beach Unit NJ-19P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(6) The map entitled “Egg Island Unit NJ-22P (1 of 2)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(7) The map entitled “Egg Island Unit NJ-22P (2 of 2) Dix Unit NJ-23P (1 of 3)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(8) The map entitled “Dix Unit NJ-23P (2 of 3)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(9) The map entitled “Dix Unit NJ-23P (3 of 3) Greenwich Unit NJ-24P” and dated December 18, 2020.

(10) The map entitled “Woodland Beach Unit DE-09P Fraland Beach Unit DE-10 Bombay Hook Unit DE-11P (1 of 2)” and dated December 18, 2020.

(11) The map entitled “Swan Point Unit MD-65 Lower Cedar Point Unit MD-66” and dated December 18, 2020.

(d) AVAILABILITY.—The Secretary of the Interior shall keep the maps described in subsections (b) and (c) on file and available for inspection in accordance with section 4(b) of the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3503(b)).

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 858—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE GOALS OF NATIONAL ADOPTION DAY AND NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH BY PROMOTING NATIONAL AWARENESS OF ADOPTION AND THE CHILDREN AWAITING FAMILIES, CELEBRATING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES INVOLVED IN ADOPTION, AND ENCOURAGING THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES TO SECURE SAFETY, PERMANENCY, AND WELL-BEING FOR ALL CHILDREN

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BENNET, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BURR, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CASEY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CRUZ, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HAGERTY, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. KING, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. MORAN, Mr. RISCH, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SCOTT of South

Carolina, Ms. SMITH, Mr. THUNE, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WICKER, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, and Mrs. FISCHER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 858

Whereas there are millions of unparented children in the world, including 391,000 children in the foster care system in the United States, approximately 114,000 of whom are waiting for families to adopt them;

Whereas the average length of time a child spends in foster care waiting to be adopted is 33.7 months;

Whereas, for many unparented children, the wait for a loving family, in which the children are nurtured, comforted, and protected, seems endless;

Whereas, in 2021, 14,380 children were at risk of aging out of foster care by reaching adulthood without being placed in a permanent home;

Whereas, every day, loving and nurturing families are strengthened and expanded when committed and dedicated individuals make an important difference in the life of a child through adoption;

Whereas, while nearly a quarter of individuals in the United States have considered adoption, a majority of individuals in the United States have misperceptions about the process of adopting children from foster care and the children who are eligible for adoption;

Whereas family reunification, kinship care, and domestic and intercountry adoption promote greater permanency and stability for children;

Whereas the Children's Bureau, an office of the Administration for Children and Families within the Department of Health and Human Services, supports programs, research, and monitoring to help eliminate barriers to adoption and find permanent families for children;

Whereas National Adoption Day is a collective national effort to find permanent, loving families for children in the foster care system;

Whereas, since the first National Adoption Day in 2000, more than 75,000 children have joined permanent families on National Adoption Day;

Whereas the President traditionally issues an annual proclamation to declare the month of November as National Adoption Month, and the President has proclaimed November 2022 as National Adoption Month; and

Whereas the Saturday before Thanksgiving has been recognized as National Adoption Day since at least 2000, and in 2022, the Saturday before Thanksgiving is November 19: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of National Adoption Day and National Adoption Month;

(2) recognizes that every child should have a permanent and loving family; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to consider adoption during the month of November and throughout the year.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE GOALS OF NATIONAL ADOPTION DAY AND NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 858, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 858) expressing support for the goals of National Adoption Day and National Adoption Month by promoting national awareness of adoption and the children awaiting families, celebrating children and families involved in adoption, and encouraging the people of the United States to secure safety, permanency, and well-being for all children.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 858) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2022

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, De-

cember 6, and that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; that upon the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Behm nomination; further, that the cloture motions filed on December 1 ripen at 12 noon and that the Senate recess after the cloture vote on the Behm nomination until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly caucus meetings; further, that notwithstanding rule XXII, that at 2:20 p.m., the Senate vote on the Hodge nomination and if cloture is invoked on either nomination, that the confirmation votes occur at 4:30 p.m.; that the cloture votes in relation to the Perez, Scott, and Murphy nominations be at a time to be determined by the majority leader, in consultation with the Republican leader, during Wednesday's session of the Senate; finally, if any nominations are confirmed during Tuesday's session, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's actions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. For the information of the Senate, there will be one rollcall vote at 12 noon, one at 2:20 p.m., and two at 4:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M.
TOMORROW

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:12 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, December 6, 2022, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING ADVISORY BOARD

MICHELLE MAI SELESKY GIUDA, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING ADVISORY BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING JANUARY 1, 2027. (NEW POSITION)

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. MARCUS B. ANNIBALE
BRIG. GEN. LORNA M. MAHLOCK
BRIG. GEN. JOSEPH A. MATOS III
BRIG. GEN. DAVID L. ODOM
BRIG. GEN. THOMAS B. SAVAGE
BRIG. GEN. WILLIAM H. SWAN
BRIG. GEN. BRIAN N. WOLFORD
BRIG. GEN. CALVERT L. WORTH, JR.

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate December 5, 2022:

THE JUDICIARY

DORIS L. PRYOR, OF INDIANA, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE SEVENTH CIRCUIT.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

LONG-TERM CARE VETERANS CHOICE ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 29, 2022

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 7158, the Long-Term Care Veterans Choice Act, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enter into contracts and agreements for the payment of care in non-Department of Veterans Affairs medical foster homes for certain veterans who are unable to live independently.

Medical foster homes are private homes where a trained caregiver provides services to a few individuals. These facilities serve as an alternative to nursing homes, providing residents with the comfort of home with medical attention readily available.

Medical foster homes and caregivers must meet specific criteria to ensure that veterans receive the same level of care that would be provided in traditional Veterans Affairs facilities or nursing homes.

Caregivers must demonstrate the ability to provide care and supervision 24/7, communicate significant changes in a veteran's status, and have caregiving experience, along with other requirements.

The home where a veteran would be living must go through inspection with a VA multi-disciplinary team, provide a home-like environment, meet National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Life Safety Code, and more.

The medical foster care program started in 2008 and has served over 1,000 veterans nationally. According to the Department of Veterans Affairs, the demand for medical foster homes is highest in rural areas, where veterans want to stay in the communities in which they are comfortable.

The Department of Veterans Affairs says that the home environment enriches the lives of veterans and their caregivers. Veterans who live in this type of setting tend to have fewer hospitalizations than those in institutional care or who live alone.

This program is providing our nation's veterans with a sense of belonging and community while also providing them with the medical care they need. Many veterans that are in medical foster homes report feeling like they are part of a family and supported.

It is estimated that there are 46,000 veterans in nursing homes across the country. Nursing homes do provide patients with the medical attention they need, but many patients miss the aspect of living in their community, in a home, and with family.

This bill would provide veterans from my home of Houston, Texas with the option to stay in their communities and be part of a family while receiving 24/7 care. Instead of stripping these veterans from their commu-

nities this bill will provide them with a way to be better engrained in their communities.

The Long-Term Care Veterans Choice Act would provide veterans who want to be at home with the ability to seek care that provides that level of support and familiarity.

I urge my colleagues to join me in support of H.R. 7158, Long-Term Care Veterans Choice Act. With the passage of this bill, we can give a sense of family back to many veterans who have been longing for a sense of normalcy.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF MAYOR RICK BONILLA ON THE CITY COUNCIL OF SAN MATEO, CALIFORNIA

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 5, 2022

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize my friend and colleague Mayor Rick Bonilla as his service on the San Mateo City Council comes to a close. Rick's record of accomplishment is impressive.

Rick and his wife Suzanne first moved to San Mateo in 1991. From 1998 to 2011, he was employed as a Field Representative by the Northern California Carpenters Regional Council. His time in public service began in 2001 when he was appointed to the Bay Meadows and Transportation Corridor Citizen's Advisory Committee. Bay Meadows was the largest redevelopment project in modern San Mateo history, and it was key to revitalizing the old site of Bay Meadows Racetrack. Rick offered his vision for land use and transportation, helping to shape the development into today's hub of high-tech industry, housing, local commerce, and recreation.

In 2006, he was appointed to the San Mateo Public Works Commission where he served for six years. He was then appointed to the Planning Commission where he served until 2015 when he was appointed to the San Mateo City Council. He was elected to his full term in 2017.

Rick Bonilla has embraced his public duties with vigor. For many years, he served as the council's representative on the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG, General Assembly). At ABAG, Rick sat on the all-important Regional Planning Committee. This committee established the methodology for determining each city's required housing allocation throughout the nine county San Francisco Bay Area. The numbers that arise from this methodology profoundly influence the cost of living for millions of Bay Area residents. Rick is a very strong advocate for housing, and also sits on the board of the Housing Endowment and Regional Trust (HEART).

Peninsula Clean Energy is our local government agency responsible for buying electricity

for nearly all businesses and residences in San Mateo County. Rick was instrumental in forming this agency and sits on its board. The agency is at the center of greening San Mateo County by offering rebates across many items that can be electrified, including vehicles and appliances, and by offering clean electricity at a price below that offered by our local public utility.

Rick also represents the council on the San Mateo County Council of Cities, the San Mateo-Foster City Public Financing Agency, and is a board member and Vice Chair of the South Bayside Waste Management Authority. He sits on the Congestion Management and Environmental Quality subcommittee of the City/County Association of Governments, and on a subcommittee of the League of California Cities. He is also responsible for four internal council committee appointments and is the chief representative to my office from the San Mateo City Council.

Now that I've listed Rick's committee assignments, let me take a few moments to speak about Rick Bonilla, the person. He is deeply dedicated to economic opportunity for all persons. Over the years, my staff and I have had countless conversations with Rick about opportunities for high school students to join the skilled trades, the need to build enough housing so that broad segments of the population could afford to live in San Mateo, racial justice, and the need to protect and promote democracy. Rick would regularly attend my town halls and illustrate for the public the connection between local decisions and national issues, providing insights that attendees would not otherwise receive. He also participated as a guest during one of my telephone town halls.

Social justice is a particular passion for Rick. He is also dedicated to promoting public safety and ensuring that residents feel safe when interacting with the San Mateo Police Department.

As he leaves the city council, Mayor Bonilla has a lot of accomplishments of which he may be proud. On all major issues impacting San Mateo for nearly two decades, he's played a role in creating the prosperous future that emerged from those choices. Whether it was Bay Meadows, bicycle paths, the minimum wage or investments in parks, police and the environment, Rick always asked whether the decision made that night would withstand the test of time. He is thus a remarkable leader, dedicated not only to those who currently live in San Mateo but to generations yet to come.

I wish Rick Bonilla well in the years ahead. I know that his wife, retired special education teacher Suzanne Flecker, will want to get him out of their house because the man really has a lot of energy. I therefore look forward to seeing Rick around the Peninsula as he goes to public meetings, continues his volunteer work, and impacts San Mateo's civic life for years to come.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

BLAIR OAKS FOOTBALL STATE
CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 5, 2022

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Blair Oaks Falcons Football Team on their victory in the Class 2 State Championship.

Blair Oaks claimed the Class 2 title in 2004, 2006, 2018, and now in 2022. To secure their win, the Falcons endured a grueling 15-week season and won in a nail-biting game with a fourth quarter defensive stop. The Falcons should be commended for all their hard work throughout the past year and for bringing home the state championship to their school and community.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing the Blair Oaks Falcons for a job well done.

RECOGNIZING STEPHEN P. DAILEY, P.E., GENERAL MANAGER OF THE FAIRFAX DRAINAGE DISTRICT OF WYANDOTTE COUNTY

HON. SHARICE DAVIDS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 5, 2022

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Stephen P. Dailey, Professional Engineer and General Manager of the Fairfax Drainage District of Wyandotte County for his exemplary professional accomplishments.

Mr. Dailey's career in public service began after graduating from the University of Missouri-Kansas City with a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering and becoming licensed as a professional engineer. He spent 14 years in the municipal well drilling industry prior to his time at Fairfax Drainage District.

Throughout Mr. Dailey's 30-year tenure as General Manager, he was responsible for protecting investments amounting to nearly \$6 billion in a 2,000-acre industrial park. He oversaw preparations and guided flood control operations for multiple record-breaking high-water events, a highlight that only begins to scratch the surface of 3 decades working in honorable service to Kansas.

Beyond supervising operation and maintenance of complex flood projection system comprised of 5 miles of levee, over 100 relief wells, 12 pump stations and a computerized communications network, Mr. Dailey spent 27 years serving on the Fairfax Industrial Association Board of Directors and over fifteen years as an active board member and committee chair of the Missouri and Associated Rivers Coalition, promoting water resource management for effective flood control and navigation works.

I've also had the pleasure of working with Mr. Dailey while in Congress. Last year, I had the pleasure of sponsoring community project funding to perform maintenance of the Fairfax Jersey Creek Upper Levee. I commend Mr. Dailey for his dedication to our state and to

our country, and the 120-plus businesses in the Kansas City, Kansas community he has tirelessly worked to support and protect.

STEVE CHABOT APPRECIATION

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 5, 2022

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, throughout my service in Congress, I have been grateful to serve with Representative STEVE CHABOT of Ohio, including our time together on the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. I will never forget our CODELS including to both Russia and China, with the bipartisan House Armed Services delegation in 2002. He is a valued public servant, and I am eternally grateful for his more than 20 years of service to Ohio's 1st congressional district and to the nation.

Throughout his life, STEVE has been a dedicated public servant. Prior to being elected to Congress in 1994, he served as a City Councilman in his hometown of Cincinnati, Ohio, and as a Hamilton County Commissioner for five years each.

During his time on the House Committee on Small Business, including as Chairman, STEVE has been a positive force for change, advocating for taxpayers, protecting small businesses, and fighting back against excessive government spending and regulations. He was a pivotal member in the implementation of the Paycheck Protection Program, which aided small businesses and saved over 50 million jobs nationwide.

As co-chairman, his service for country caucuses made a difference for appreciative allies from Taiwan to Turkey. He tirelessly promoted warm relations with valued allies.

As a Senior member on the House Committee on the Judiciary, he sponsored legislation to combat the opioid epidemic, defend the rights of the unborn, fight against internet child exploitation, and increase resources for those facing mental health challenges.

Today I am grateful to honor his service to the American people and wish him and his wife Donna the best in their future endeavors.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11th.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF THE HONORABLE ERIC RODRIGUEZ, COUNCILMEMBER, CITY OF SAN MATEO, UPON THE CONCLUSION OF HIS PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 5, 2022

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Eric Rodriguez as he steps down from the San Mateo City Council after serving for five years and ten months, with one year as Mayor.

Eric grew up in neighboring Belmont. Upon moving to San Mateo, he eventually served as his neighborhood's representative to the San Mateo United Homeowners Association and

as a member of the Aragon Neighborhood Association Board of Directors from 2013 through 2016. In 2015, he was appointed to the planning commission, serving until 2017.

In that year, he was elected to the San Mateo City Council. In his candidate's statement he argued for effective traffic planning to reduce gridlock, preservation of the neighborhood character of San Mateo, quality public safety and parks and recreation services, affordable housing and fiscal accountability. He received 6,266 votes.

Nowhere in his candidate statement did the word "COVID" appear.

Eric led San Mateo as Mayor from December 2020 to December 2021. These harsh times of pandemic required city services to be largely delivered remotely, city workers to support public health by arranging for testing and then early public vaccination sites, and an all-hands-on-deck approach to preserving public health. This included the difficult decision to enforce shut-down orders for public places. As the vital restaurant industry began to be devastated by the disease, Eric and his colleagues swiftly approved outside dining and offered financial support. When racial tensions rose because of actions in other cities that sparked nationwide outrage, Mayor Rodriguez spoke out on YouTube and stated that San Mateo stood united against hatred and all forms of racism. He also spoke in favor of the Police Athletic League (PAL), stating that building relationships between young people and the police was part of the solution to keeping fairness in the community.

During his time in office, Eric was a strong advocate for affordable housing developments to reduce income inequality in San Mateo. To his credit and that of his colleagues, a city parking lot near Caltrain is now under construction. Kiku Crossing is a 7-story apartment building that will offer 225 homes for those earning low incomes, and a new publicly accessible parking garage. This development could have been contentious, but Eric and his colleagues spent many hours educating the public about the benefits of this project.

Also begun during his term of office was a billion dollar+ upgrade to the city's wastewater treatment plant. It takes quite a bit of time to bring this kind of project to the stage of construction, but Eric and his colleagues supported an upgrade that is a credit to the objectives of the Clean Water Act and that will be a vital piece of public infrastructure for decades to come.

In his private life, Eric is presently the CEO of a health information website that he co-founded. He serves on the Board of Directors of the Police Activities League and the Rotary Club of San Mateo. He is a graduate of the Stanford Graduate School of Business where he received his M.B.A., and the University of California at Berkeley where he received his Bachelor of Science degree. He and his wife Shirley have one child, son Tyler. Now that he is leaving public life, there will be more personal time to enjoy with his family.

When the call of elective public service is made, most people turn a deaf ear. It then falls to a few to assume the reigns of authority, pursuant to endorsement via elections, and to bear the full commitment of time, energy and emotion on behalf of creating a better community for all. Eric Rodriguez answered the call, and the people of San Mateo are better because of his service. I wish Eric and his

family wonderful times in the years ahead. In the coming years, as he leads Tyler through the community, he will be able to point and to say, "Dad helped make that possible." I am certain that his son will be impressed, and perhaps another generation of public service will be born because of those moments. This is one of the chief ways in which American democracy sustains itself. From parent to child. From generation to generation. From local government to national. The accomplishments of all of us add up, and Eric Rodriguez's service is illustrative of this remarkable reality of democracy.

RECOGNIZING LAREDO MAYOR
PEDRO IGNACIO SAENZ, JR.

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 5, 2022

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize Mayor Pedro Ignacio Saenz, Jr.

After serving the maximum two terms as mayor of my hometown of Laredo, Texas, Mayor Saenz will step down at the end of this year. I would like to congratulate him on his many accomplishments in office and wish him the very best in the next chapter of his life.

A third generation Laredoan, Mayor Saenz is a pillar of our community. He raised his family in Laredo. He built a highly successful law practice there and specialized in oil and gas for 30 years. Mayor Saenz was president of both the South Texas Food Bank and the Laredo Affordable Housing Corporation—and he served for 12 years on the board of Laredo College, including as Board President, where he was instrumental in establishing the South Campus.

As mayor, he was a tireless advocate for the City of Laredo. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Mayor Saenz shepherded the city through a public health emergency. He helped the city manage difficult cross-border politics and challenging water issues. He helped lay the groundwork for closer binational cooperation with Nuevo Laredo and for substantial new investments in infrastructure.

Being a mayor is a 24/7 job. After serving two full terms, Mayor Saenz has earned the right to step away and spend more time with his family, including his wife Minerva, his 3 children, and his 5 grandchildren. I congratulate him on his work over the past 8 years, and I look forward to seeing what the next chapter of his life holds.

LYMPHEDEMA TREATMENT ACT

HON. PAUL TONKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 5, 2022

Mr. TONKO. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the Lymphedema Treatment Act, and to pay tribute to my constituents with lymphedema and their loved ones.

Nearly ten million Americans currently suffer from lymphedema, symptoms of which include intense discomfort, recurring infections, and difficulty moving. Lymphedema is characterized by swelling of the arms and legs often

caused by cancer or cancer treatments that result in the damage or blockage of the lymphatic system. There is no cure, but there are effective treatments. I want to take the time to recognize one of my constituents named Emma. Emma is 14 years old and was born with this incurable, progressive disease in her legs and feet. She first visited D.C. to advocate for this bill when she was 6 years old. Emma's advocacy has taught my team and me about lymphedema and the priorities for those living with this disease. She has shared about the painful complications and the need for the best treatment to be affordable.

Currently, Medicare does not cover the cost of compression treatment items. The Lymphedema Treatment Act would improve coverage for the treatment of lymphedema by extending coverage to include certain lymphedema compression treatment items. As a proud cosponsor and longtime supporter, I was excited to vote in support of H.R. 3630, the Lymphedema Treatment Act, when it came for a vote in the House of Representatives. I urge the Senate to move this critical legislation forward. We owe it to Emma and to all those suffering from lymphedema to get this bill signed into law. I also hope that private insurers will follow suit and do the right things with coverage for compression treatment items.

I thank Emma, her family and my many constituents who advocated for this and made a difference in pushing this forward.

HONORING D H BROWN'S FOR ITS
DECADES OF SERVING ILLI-
NOISANS FROM ALL CORNERS
OF THE STATE

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 5, 2022

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize D H Brown's in Springfield, Illinois, for bringing Illinoisans together for decades.

An iconic downtown establishment located in former President Abraham Lincoln's hometown, D H Brown's caters to patrons from every walk of life. It is a staple in Central Illinois, and a gathering place for individuals to engage in thoughtful discussion on how to strengthen communities throughout the state. While the Illinois General Assembly is in session, it is not uncommon to see state legislators from both parties frequenting D H Brown's, talking directly with constituents and other Illinoisans alike. Owned by Alex Preston, it is a vital fixture that helps to embody the culture of Springfield. I'm confident that D H Brown's will continue to contribute to this deep political heritage for many years to come.

It is because of Illinois' quintessential establishments like D H Brown's that I am especially proud to serve in Congress. Madam Speaker, I would like to, again, formally honor D H Brown's in Springfield for their decades of service to Illinoisans.

RICK MCLEOD APPRECIATED

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 5, 2022

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, since 2008, Rick McLeod has served as the President and CEO of the Savannah River Site Community Reuse Organization (SRSCRO) and after nearly 14 years of dedication to the nonprofit and the community, he has announced his retirement.

Rick has led the two-state of South Carolina and Georgia, five-county SRSCRO in facilitating economic development and serving as a unified voice for the region throughout his time there. He has played an integral role in advancing the organization's mission to craft and implement an extensive strategy that will promote the common economic interests of the community by furthering growth in the service area and stabilizing the financial state of the Savannah River Site.

Having received a B.S. degree in Agricultural Engineering and a Master's in Environmental System Engineering from Clemson University, Rick exemplifies tremendous skill in technical training as well as extensive professional experience from his over 25 years in business development, fundraising, and project management in both the private and public sectors.

Aside from his work with SRSCRO, Rick has taken an active role in a national non-profit conservation organization, where he has first-hand experience with foundation and corporate donations, and federal grants and appropriations.

South Carolina is grateful for Rick's work in ensuring that the people of the state have opportunities to develop skills needed to obtain jobs in the area, thus connecting and strengthening the relationship between regional employers and educational institutions, ultimately increasing economic development.

I congratulate Rick on his retirement with best wishes for continued success.

AMERICA'S 21ST CENTURY TROJAN
HORSE—THOMAS DRESSER

HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 5, 2022

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to include in the RECORD an op-ed written by Dr. Thomas Dresser of Columbia, Missouri.

A Trojan horse for the United States of America in the 21st century is the container ship from China. The millions of containers bring high quality and lower priced goods to our country. The hidden cost is the loss of our ability to provide for ourselves. We cannot live without the contents of those containers, and we are becoming less able to produce them for ourselves. Items essential for the existence of our nation are made in China. This is a strategic mistake for the USA.

The original Trojan horse occurred when the Greek army was trying to defeat the city of Troy. After the years-long siege did not work, the Greeks pretended to leave but left

the gift of a large wooden horse. The citizens took this into the city, and during the night the hidden soldiers climbed out of the horse, opened the city gates, and let in the Greek army. Troy was defeated.

Give credit to China for using our strength to defeat us. Our strength is capitalism in a free market, which is using the principle of producing something for less and making a profit. The producer with the most products will take over the market. When the market is controlled by one entity, there is no competition. When there is no competition, you win. China makes products for less, and they are not worried about the profit. The profit will come later. It is noteworthy that they have used the principles of one of America's greatest entrepreneurs to overcome us. Sam Walton founded Walmart in 1962 and created a retailing empire. The company slogan is "we sell for less". This is true. China's model is "we produce for less". This is a perfect match. Walmart is one of the largest retailers in the world. Check their shelves and see how many products are made in China. For that matter check the hardware store, the department store, and the general marketplace for products. Made in China dominates. Then there is the largest corporation in the USA, Apple. How important is China to the manufacture of their products? It's important. So, what if next Monday China says, "we are not shipping anything to the USA until further notice!". How would that affect Walmart, Apple, and the rest of us? Unless we have a remedy for that, we are on the road to serfdom.

In 1990, the gross domestic product of the USA was \$5.9T and for China it was \$361B. In 2021, the GDP for USA was \$23T and for China it was \$17.7T. In just 31 years China has gone from 6% to 77% of the GDP of the USA. If there is no change in this model, then in a very short time China will be the dominant economic power in the world. And the principles of manufacturing greatly favor China. They don't have to worry about minimum wage, labor unions, and environmental standards. There is no way that the USA can compete in the marketplace with these different standards.

The ancient General Sun-tsu would be proud of his descendants who took an opponent's strength (manufactured goods) and turned that strength into a weakness. When China's dominance in manufacturing grows to a critical level, then total submission of our country can be affected without the need of a single military action. This is every general's dream.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KEVIN HERN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 5, 2022

Mr. HERN. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 500.

HONORING THE SHRINER INTERNATIONAL FRATERNITY

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 5, 2022

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, it is my great honor to recognize Shriners International. Their continued commitment to their

fraternity members and for those they provide services for is immeasurable, and Ahmed Shriners has become an indispensable part of Michigan's First District.

Shriners International fraternity was founded 150 years ago with the goal of providing the tools and sense of fellowship to men of good character across the country. With the establishment of the Shriners Children's health care system in 1922, Shriners International has continually supported our most vulnerable communities. Extending across our Nation's borders and into both Canada and Mexico, Shriners International has become a staunch supporter of healthcare facilities across North America by offering specialty services and care to children, regardless of their family's ability to pay. Shriners International has had the privilege to help countless individuals while expecting nothing in return. This fraternity has had a direct impact on the communities they serve, making it appropriate to acknowledge their continued effort to the communities in the Upper Peninsula. The work and passion of Ahmed Shriners, Potentate Sir. Travis Freeman, as well as all who contribute to make Shriners International the communal asset it is today deserve our praise.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize Shriners International in their effort to continually provide service to children and their families. On behalf of Michigan's First District, I wish all fraternity members and staff of Ahmed Shriners and Shriners International the best in their future endeavors. Michigan's First District commends their continued support of the Upper Peninsula and thanks them for their work in ensuring a healthy community both socially and medically.

KIRKMAN FINLAY III APPRECIATION

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 5, 2022

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, Representative Kirkman Finlay III, has been successful promoting governmental reforms during his time in the South Carolina House of Representatives.

Among these were numerous ethics and election law reform proposals. Representative Finlay was the author of an Act relating to the contents of the statement of economic interest so as to require disclosure of specified income (Act 283 of 2015–2016).

In addition, he began the process regarding several property tax reforms as related to families and the disabled. He was a watchdog on local government abuses, expanding pharmaceutical vaccine availability, animal control and care, coastal tidelands protections, and restrictions regarding lobbyists and former public officials. He was also the author of the "Bad Faith Assertion of Patent Infringement Act."

Also on his agenda was electric utility reform—Representative Finlay sponsored a bill relating to baseload review orders and project development orders issued for certain utility facility construction projects in the aftermath of the SCANA nuclear plant debacle.

Representative Kirkman Finlay III, will always be appreciated for his dedicated service to the citizens of South Carolina.

RECOGNIZING THE USC VERDUGO HILLS HOSPITAL'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 5, 2022

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 50th anniversary of USC Verdugo Hills Hospital in Glendale, California.

Originally founded in 1947 as the Behrens Memorial Hospital, the hospital moved in 1972 to a new hilltop location and was renamed Verdugo Hills Hospital. Initially established as a 158-bed acute care hospital serving Glendale, La Canada Flintridge, and the surrounding foothills area, it has grown over the last five decades and significantly expanded its healthcare options and services.

In 2013, the Verdugo Hills Hospital began a partnership with the University of Southern California (USC) and officially became the USC Verdugo Hills Hospital, in concert with Keck Medicine of USC. Since this acquisition, increased investment from the community and university have transformed the community-based hospital into a cutting-edge, academic medical institution. Some of the hospital's most essential services include a 24-hour emergency room, bariatric and minimally invasive surgery, a primary stroke center, and orthopedic surgery services. Recently, multi-million-dollar expansions have also funded the opening of a new Level II Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and an Interventional Radiology/Cardiac Catheterization Lab, as well as the expansion of clinical services in Labor and Delivery and Urology. In partnership with USC, the hospital also hosts community events such as Caregiver's Night Off and "Doc Talks" to assist both patients and their families.

USC Verdugo Hills Hospital's innovative services and expansive network has earned the hospital numerous awards, including the Board of Certification in Emergency Nursing's Honorary Certification Recognition, and its emergency department nurses received their second Lantern Award for their outstanding and innovative emergency room performance. The hospital has long been known for the friendliness, warmth and kindness of its staff and small-town hospital feel, beginning with a cheerful greeting at the hospital's front door by a caring volunteer. USC Verdugo Hills Hospital's volunteer program includes many long-time volunteers, including prospective medical students, and offers the opportunity to learn more about the medical field and provides a chance to give back to the community.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, USC Verdugo Hills Hospital's staff, physicians, and nurses worked tirelessly to care for their patients, serving as a leader in the community in the fight against the virus. The hospital's inpatient beds and Intensive Care Unit beds were crucial in providing high quality care to those most adversely affected by the virus.

I am proud to represent USC Verdugo Hills Hospital and commend their ongoing commitment to providing outstanding service to their patients and community. I ask all Members to join me today in honoring USC Verdugo Hills Hospital upon the celebration of its 50th anniversary.

RECOGNIZING THE DEPARTURE OF
THE HONORABLE JOE GOETHALS
FROM THE SAN MATEO CITY
COUNCIL

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 5, 2022

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize my good friend and colleague, Councilman Joe Goethals, upon his departure from the San Mateo City Council after nine years. He began his public service on the San Mateo Public Works Commission and as a Director on the Peninsula Health Care District Board. During his time on the council, he served on the Emergency Services Council, the Grand Boulevard Task Force, Peninsula Clean Energy, the San Mateo Consolidated Fire Department board, and the San Mateo County pre-Hospital Emergency Medical Services Group. He served as Mayor in 2019.

When he first ran for city council in 2013, he noted that he was a prosecutor for the Alameda County District Attorney's Office, and that by that time he had already handled over 50 cases and appeared in court in 25 jury trials involving such violent crimes as murder, rape and kidnapping. Since then, he's worked in the offices of both the Alameda and San Mateo County District Attorneys.

Today, Joe is in private practice as a trial attorney handling criminal defense, murder, sexual assault, wrongful death and personal injury cases. As a city councilman, prosecutor and defense counsel, Joe sees all sides of the criminal justice system.

We live in special times when people question whether our nation will splinter and whether we can continue to live under one body of law. I want to take a moment to speak about Joe Goethals the attorney because from this discipline, combined with public office, he created an unusually authoritative perspective on public policy.

In a 2020 Facebook post, he reposted an image of a man with a ball and chain and the word "addiction" on the ball, with the man reaching for a key that had "hope" as its name. In 2021, as protests broke out throughout the country Joe, his colleagues, and the Board of Supervisors established a pilot program teaming mental health professionals with police officers to help people in crisis. Joe noted at the time, "More than half of the county jail are individuals suffering from some form of mental health issues. Interventions like this I support very much because (mental) health professionals are a proven solution to reducing incarceration in favor of treatment and diversion." His validation, coming from both a seasoned prosecutor and defense attorney, meant that residents of San Mateo could have an extra measure of assurance that public safety was enhanced by mental health interventions. To borrow a concept from our shared faith, Joe was teaching from the catechism of justice.

As a councilmember, Joe Goethals was on the dais as San Mateo tackled some of its most difficult problems. The city has since initiated major public works projects to fix a flooding problem in the North Shoreview neighborhood, a major intersection problem at El Camino and Highway 92, and a significant deficiency in the city's sewage treatment system.

During Joe's years on the council, thousands of new housing units were created, and the city cooperated with the county to establish at least two hotels as new shelters for the homeless. Joe and his colleagues spurred businesses towards financial health despite the pandemic by approving outdoor dining downtown.

Born and raised in San Mateo, Joe grew up along Aragon Boulevard as part of a family of five children. He was outstanding in Little League and coached right through law school. For first through eighth grade, he attended St. Matthew's Catholic School, later moving to St. Ignatius College Preparatory High School in San Francisco, and ultimately attending Santa Clara University for both undergraduate and law school. Upon graduation with an undergraduate degree in Combined Sciences with an emphasis in microbiology, he was honored with the Santa Clara University Richard J. Riordan Award for Public Service. He actually has two graduate degrees, having attained a Master's in Public Health from San Jose State University before his J.D. degree. He served for five years in public health after his undergraduate studies. As a law student, he won the Honors Moot Court competition and a scholarship to Oxford University for the summer.

Joe and his wife, Sharon, have three girls Samantha, Ellie, and Charlotte. Although they have lived in different locations in recent years, they have always called San Mateo home.

It is time to bid adieu to a passionate advocate for sound government. America lost a champion Little Leaguer when Joe was forced to retire from coaching. It's losing a champion public policymaker as he steps away from elective office, hopefully for only a short time. Now, his family will regain the full-time attention of a loving father and husband. Life is both complete and expanding its joys for Joe Goethals, the boy from Aragon Boulevard who swung for the bleachers and hit a grand slam.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, December 6, 2022 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

DECEMBER 7

10 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Anthony Rosario Coscia, of New Jersey, David Michael Capozzi, of Maryland, Christopher Koos, of Illinois, Samuel E. Lathem, of Delaware, and Robin Lee Wiessmann, of Pennsylvania, each to be a Director of the Amtrak Board of Directors, Robert E. Primus, of New Jersey, to be a Member of the Surface Transportation Board, Sue Ellen Moore, of Washington, and Andrew J. Read, of North Carolina, both to be a Member of the Marine Mammal Commission, Rubydee Calvert, of Wyoming, and Diane Susan Kaplan, of Alaska, both to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, and routine lists in the Coast Guard.

SR-253

Committee on Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider S. 3386, to prevent, treat, and cure tuberculosis globally, S. 4824, to provide for proper oversight of North Korea policy, S. 4064, to facilitate the development of a whole-of-government strategy for nuclear cooperation and nuclear exports, S. 4509, to provide for security in the Black Sea region, S. 4996, to amend the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 to modify the establishment of a coordinator for detained ISIS members and relevant displaced populations in Syria, S. 4955, to amend certain authorities relating to human rights violations and abuses in Ukraine, S. Con. Res. 47, commending the bravery, courage, and resolve of the women and men of Iran demonstrating in more than 80 cities and risking their safety to speak out against the Iranian regime's human rights abuses, S. Con. Res. 16, commemorating the 30th anniversary of Operation Provide Comfort, S. Res. 713, recognizing Russian actions in Ukraine as a genocide, S. Res. 472, reaffirming the partnership between the United States and the Dominican Republic and advancing opportunities to deepen diplomatic, economic, and security cooperation between the two nations, S. Res. 730, remembering the 30th anniversary of the bombing of the Embassy of Israel in Buenos Aires on March 17, 1992, the 28th anniversary of the bombing of the Argentine-Israeli Mutual Association building in Buenos Aires on July 18, 1994, and recommitting to efforts to uphold justice for the victims of the attacks, S. Res. 322, reaffirming the alliance between the United States and Bulgaria, congratulating Bulgaria on its July 11, 2021 parliamentary elections, and calling for continued progress in Bulgaria towards combating corruption, respecting the freedom of the press, and protecting minority rights, S. Res. 650, recognizing May 28 as "World Hunger Day", that the 90th anniversary of the Ukrainian Famine of 1932-1933, known as the Holodomor, should serve as a reminder of repressive Soviet policies against the people of Ukraine, and that Vladimir Putin's illegal war against Ukraine has diminished Ukraine's agricultural output and threatens to exacerbate the problems of global hunger

on World Hunger Day, H.R. 7240, to reauthorize the READ Act, the nominations of Joey R. Hood, of New Hampshire, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Tunisia, Lucy Tamlyn, of Rhode Island, to be Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Jessica Davis Ba, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire, and Rachna Sachdeva Korhonen, of New Jersey, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Mali, all of the Department of State, and other pending calendar business.

S-116

2:30 p.m.

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

To hold hearings to examine the Civil Society Campaign to improve the lethality and survivability of the Ukrainian military.

SD-562

DECEMBER 8

9 a.m.

Committee on the Judiciary

Business meeting to consider the nominations of DeAndrea Gist Benjamin, of South Carolina, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit, Robert Stewart Ballou, to be United States District Judge for the Western

District of Virginia, Todd E. Edelman, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia, Kymberly Kathryn Evanson, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington, Myong J. Joun, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts, and Colleen R. Lawless, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of Illinois.

SH-216

11 a.m.

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

To receive a briefing on demining Ukraine.

WEBEX

3:30 p.m.

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

To receive a briefing on Russia's infrastructure terrorists.

WEBEX

DECEMBER 15

10 a.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works

Subcommittee on Chemical Safety, Waste Management, Environmental Justice, and Regulatory Oversight

To hold hearings to examine the impact of plastic use and identifying solutions for reducing plastic waste.

SD-406

POSTPONEMENTS

DECEMBER 7

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Karen Sasahara, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador to the State of Kuwait, Richard Mills, Jr., of Georgia, to be Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Nigeria, and Kathleen A. FitzGibbon, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Niger, all of the Department of State, and other pending nominations.

SD-419

Select Committee on Intelligence

To hold hearings to examine personnel vetting modernization.

SH-216

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

See Résumé of Congressional Activity.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S6949–S6969

Measures Introduced: Seven bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 5181–5187, and S. Res. 858.

Pages S6962–63

Measures Reported:

S. 2135, to amend title 31, United States Code, to require the Chief Operating Officer of each agency to compile a list of unnecessary programs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 117–216)

S. 2483, to require the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency to establish cybersecurity guidance for small organizations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 117–217)

S. 3650, to require the Director of the Office of Personnel Management to establish and maintain a public directory of the individuals occupying Government policy and supporting positions, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 117–218)

S. 4516, to require the Office of Federal Procurement Policy to develop governmentwide procurement policy and guidance to mitigate organizational conflict of interests relating to national security and foreign policy. (S. Rept. No. 117–219)

S. 4572, to require U.S. Customs and Border Protection to expand the use of non-intrusive inspection systems at land ports of entry, with amendments. (S. Rept. No. 117–220)

S. 4645, to restrict the flow of illicit drugs into the United States, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 117–221)

S. 4656, to reauthorize and amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to create stronger accountability mechanisms for Joint Task Forces, with an amendment. (S. Rept. No. 117–222)

S. 4908, to improve the visibility, accountability, and oversight of agency software asset management

practices, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 117–223)

H.R. 3544, to require the Administrator of General Services to transfer certain surplus computers and technology equipment to nonprofit computer refurbishers for repair, distribution, and return, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 117–224)

H.R. 408, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish a mentor-protégé program, with amendments. (S. Rept. No. 117–225)

H.R. 2662, to amend the Inspector General Act of 1978, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 117–226)

S. 732, to strengthen Buy American requirements, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 117–227)

S. 4000, to require the establishment of cybersecurity information sharing agreements between the Department of Homeland Security and Congress, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 117–228)

S. 4326, to authorize the Director of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement to pay stipends to members of Transnational Criminal Investigative Units who have been properly vetted, with an amendment. (S. Rept. No. 117–229)

Report to accompany H.R. 5615, to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to submit a plan to make Federal assistance available to certain urban areas that previously received Urban Area Security Initiative funding to preserve homeland security capabilities. (S. Rept. No. 117–230)

H.R. 370, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to make technical corrections to the requirement that the Secretary of Homeland Security submit quadrennial homeland security reviews. (S. Rept. No. 117–231)

Page S6962

Measures Passed:

National Adoption Day and National Adoption Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 858, expressing support for the goals of National Adoption Day and National Adoption Month by promoting national awareness of adoption and the children awaiting families, celebrating children and families involved in adoption, and encouraging the people of the United States to secure safety, permanency, and well-being for all children. **Pages S6968–69**

Behm Nomination—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Frances Kay Behm, of Michigan, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan. **Pages S6949–54**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination at approximately 10 a.m., on Tuesday, December 6, 2022; that the motions to invoke cloture filed on Thursday, December 1, 2022, ripen at 12 noon, on Tuesday, December 6, 2022; that notwithstanding Rule XXII, at 2:20 p.m., Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Kelley Brisbon Hodge, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, and if cloture is invoked on either nomination, the votes on confirmation of the nominations occur at 4:30 p.m.; and that the motions to invoke cloture in relation to the nominations of Mia Roberts Perez, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, Kai N. Scott, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, and John Frank Murphy, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, be at a time to be determined by the Majority Leader, in consultation with the Republican Leader, during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, December 7, 2022. **Page S6969**

Hopkins Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Jeffery Paul Hopkins, of Ohio, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Ohio. **Page S6954**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of John Frank Murphy, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. **Page S6954**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S6954**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S6954**

Montgomery-Reeves Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Tamika R. Montgomery-Reeves, of Delaware, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit. **Pages S6954–55**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Jeffery Paul Hopkins, of Ohio, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Ohio. **Page S6955**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S6954**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S6954**

Douglas Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Dana M. Douglas, of Louisiana, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit. **Page S6955**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Tamika R. Montgomery-Reeves, of Delaware, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit. **Page S6955**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S6955**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S6955**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 60 yeas to 31 nays (Vote No. EX. 373), Doris L. Pryor, of Indiana, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Seventh Circuit. **Page S6955**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Michelle Mai Selesky Giuda, of Virginia, to be a Member of the International Broadcasting Advisory Board for a term expiring January 1, 2027.

8 Marine Corps nominations in the rank of general. **Page S6969**

Messages from the House: **Pages S6960–61**

Measures Referred: **Page S6961**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Page S6961**

Enrolled Bills Presented: **Page S6961**

Executive Communications: Pages S6961–62
Additional Cosponsors: Pages S6963–64
Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: Pages S6964–68
Additional Statements: Pages S6959–60
Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—373) Page S6955
Adjournment: Senate convened at 3 p.m. and adjourned at 7:12 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, De-

cember 6, 2022. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S6969.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 6 public bills, H.R. 9424–9429 were introduced. Page H8757

Additional Cosponsors: Pages H8757–58

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative McGovern to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. Page H8733

Recess: The House recessed at 12:16 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m. Page H8734

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure:

Cardiovascular Advances in Research and Opportunities Legacy Act: Concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 1193, to amend title IV of the Public Health Service Act to direct the Director of the National Institutes of Health, in consultation with the Director of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, shall establish a program under which the Director of the National Institutes of Health shall support or conduct research on valvular heart disease. Pages H8755–56

Suspensions—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measures under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

Data Mapping to Save Moms' Lives Act: S. 198, amended, to require the Federal Communications Commission to incorporate data on maternal health outcomes into its broadband health maps; Pages H8735–36

SBA Cyber Awareness Act: Concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 3462, to require an annual report on the cybersecurity of the Small Business Administration; Pages H8736–38

STEP Improvement Act of 2022: H.R. 8844, to reauthorize the State Trade Expansion Program of the Small Business Administration; Pages H8738–40

Small Business Cyber Training Act: S. 1687, amended, to amend section 21 of the Small Business Act to require cyber certification for small business development center counselors; Pages H8740–41

Disaster Assistance for Rural Communities Act: S. 1617, to modify the requirements for the Administrator of the Small Business Administration relating to declaring a disaster in a rural area; Pages H8741–42

Community Disaster Resilience Zones Act of 2022: S. 3875, to require the President to develop and maintain products that show the risk of natural hazards across the United States; Pages H8742–44

Amending the Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006 to repeal certain obsolete requirements: S. 3499, to amend the Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006 to repeal certain obsolete requirements; Pages H8744–45

Rural Opioid Abuse Prevention Act: S. 2796, to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide for the eligibility of rural community response pilot programs for funding under the Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Grant Program; Pages H8745–50

Providing Resources, Officers, and Technology to Eradicate Cyber Threats to Our Children Act of 2022: S. 4834, to reauthorize the National Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force Program; Pages H8750–52

Patents for Humanity Act: Concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 5796, to amend title 35, United States Code, to establish a competition to award certificates that can be redeemed to accelerate

certain matters at the Patent and Trademark Office; and
Pages H8752–54

Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Act of 2022: S. 4052, to reauthorize a program for early detection, diagnosis, and treatment regarding deaf and hard-of-hearing newborns, infants, and young children.
Pages H8754–55

Senate Referral: S. 4052 was held at the desk.
Page H8742

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H8742.

Quorum Calls—Votes: There were no Yea and Nay votes, and there were no Recorded votes. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 12 noon and adjourned at 4:23 p.m.

Committee Meetings

SENATE AMENDMENT TO THE WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2022; SENATE AMENDMENT TO THE RESPECT FOR MARRIAGE ACT; EAGLE ACT OF 2022; VETERAN SERVICE RECOGNITION ACT OF 2022

Committee on Rules: Full Committee began a hearing on the Senate Amendment to H.R. 7776, the “Water Resources Development Act of 2022” [James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023]; the Senate Amendment to H.R. 8404, the “Respect for Marriage Act”; H.R. 3648, the “EAGLE Act of 2022”; and H.R. 7946, the “Veteran Service Recognition Act of 2022”. The Committee granted, by record vote of 8-4, a rule providing for consideration of H.R. 3648, the “EAGLE Act of 2022”, and H.R. 7946, the “Veteran Service Recognition Act of 2022”. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 3648, the “EAGLE Act of 2022”, under a structured rule. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their designees. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary now printed in the bill, modified by the amendment printed in part A of the Rules Committee report, shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule makes in order only the further amendment printed in part B of the Rules Committee report. The amendment may be offered

only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule waives all points of order against the amendment printed in Part B of the report. The rule provides one motion to recommit. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 7946, the “Veteran Service Recognition Act of 2022”, under a structured rule. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their designees. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule makes in order only the further amendment printed in part C of the Rules Committee report. The amendment may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule waives all points of order against the amendment printed in part C of the report. The rule provides one motion to recommit. The rule provides that at any time through the legislative day of December 8, 2022, the Speaker may entertain motions offered by the Majority Leader or a designee that the House suspend the rules with respect to multiple measures that were the object of motions to suspend the rules on the legislative day of December 5 through December 8, on which the yeas and nays were ordered and further proceedings postponed. The Chair shall put the question on any such motion without debate or intervening motion, and the ordering of the yeas and nays on postponed motions to suspend the rules with respect to such measures is vacated. The rule provides that proceedings may be postponed through December 8, 2022, on measures that were the object of motions to suspend the rules on the legislative day of December 5, and on which the yeas and nays were ordered. Section 5 of the rule waives the requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII for a two-thirds vote to consider a report from the Committee on Rules on the same day it is presented to the House with respect to any resolution reported through the remainder of the 117th Congress. Testimony was

heard from Chairman Nadler, Chairman Lofgren, and Representatives Fitzgerald and Roy.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D1103)

H.R. 8454, to expand research on cannabidiol and marijuana. Signed on December 2, 2022. (Public Law 117–215)

H.J. Res. 100, to provide for a resolution with respect to the unresolved disputes between certain railroads represented by the National Carriers' Conference Committee of the National Railway Labor Conference and certain of their employees. Signed on December 2, 2022. (Public Law 117–216)

S. 3826, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1304 4th Avenue in Canyon, Texas, as the "Gary James Fletcher Post Office Building". Signed on December 2, 2022. (Public Law 117–217)

S. 3884, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 404 U.S. Highway 41 North in Baraga, Michigan, as the "Cora Reynolds Anderson Post Office". Signed on December 2, 2022. (Public Law 117–218)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2022

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: to hold hearings to examine the 2023 Farm Bill, focusing on research programs, 10 a.m., SR–328A.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

House

Committee on Financial Services, Subcommittee on Diversity and Inclusion, hearing entitled "Unfinished Business: A Review of Progress Made and a Plan to Achieve Full Economic Inclusion for Every American", 11 a.m., 2128 Rayburn and Webex.

Subcommittee on Investor Protection, Entrepreneurship and Capital Markets, hearing entitled "E, S, G and W: Examining Private Sector Disclosure of Workforce Management, Investment, and Diversity Data", 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on the Middle East, North Africa, and Global Counterterrorism, hearing entitled "Confronting Yemen's Humanitarian and Political Crises Without a Ceasefire", 10 a.m., 2200 Rayburn and Webex.

Full Committee, markup on H. Res. 1456, of inquiry requesting the President and directing the Secretary of State to transmit, respectively, certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to the conclusion of the Department of State on whether Marc Fogel is wrongfully detained; H. Res. 1482, of inquiry requesting the President and directing the Secretary of Defense and Secretary of State to transmit, respectively, certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to Congressionally appropriated funds to the nation of Ukraine from January 20, 2021 to November 15, 2022; H.R. 9374, the "Countering Malign Russian Activities Globally Act"; H.R. 9243, the "Providing Appropriate Recognition and Treatment Needed to Enhance Relations with ASEAN Act"; H.R. 8654, the "End Tuberculosis Now Act"; H. Res. 1481, urging United States policy toward Guatemala to support the rule of law and address challenges of kleptocracy, organized crime, private and public sector corruption, illicit campaign financing, criminalization of and attacks on justice operators, journalists, and human rights defenders, and restrictions resulting in the closure of civic space; and H. Con. Res. 110, commending the bravery, courage, and resolve of the women and men of Iran demonstrating in more than 80 cities and risking their safety to speak out against the Iranian regime's human rights abuses, 2 p.m., 2118 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled "Lessons from the Field: Overcrowding in National Parks", 1 p.m., 1324 Longworth and Webex.

Committee on Oversight and Reform, Full Committee, markup on H. Res. 1479, of inquiry requesting the President transmit certain documents in his possession to the House of Representatives relating to the surveillance or monitoring of prog-gun, pro-life, or conservative groups under the Internet Covert Operations Program operated by the United States Postal Inspection Service; and several postal naming measures, 1 p.m., 2154 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Building a Safer Antarctic Research Environment", 1 p.m., 2318 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Small Business, Subcommittee on Oversight, Investigations, and Regulations, hearing entitled "Building Sustainable Businesses through Employee Ownership at SBA", 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, hearing entitled "Transitional Housing Reform: Examining the Future of the VA Grant and Per Diem Program", 10 a.m., HVC–210 and Zoom.

Select Committee on the Climate Crisis, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Solving the Climate Crisis: Key Accomplishments, Additional Opportunities, and the Need for Continued Action", 1:15 p.m., 2167 Rayburn and Zoom.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of December 6 through December 9, 2022

Senate Chamber

On *Tuesday*, Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Frances Kay Behm, of Michigan, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at 12 noon. Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Kelley Brisbon Hodge, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania at 2:20 p.m. If cloture is invoked on either of the nominations, Senate will vote on confirmation thereon at 4:30 p.m.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: December 6, to hold hearings to examine the 2023 Farm Bill, focusing on research programs, 10 a.m., SR-328A.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: December 7, business meeting to consider the nominations of Anthony Rosario Coscia, of New Jersey, David Michael Capozzi, of Maryland, Christopher Koos, of Illinois, Samuel E. Lathem, of Delaware, and Robin Lee Wiessmann, of Pennsylvania, each to be a Director of the Amtrak Board of Directors, Robert E. Primus, of New Jersey, to be a Member of the Surface Transportation Board, Sue Ellen Moore, of Washington, and Andrew J. Read, of North Carolina, both to be a Member of the Marine Mammal Commission, Rubydee Calvert, of Wyoming, and Diane Susan Kaplan, of Alaska, both to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, and routine lists in the Coast Guard, 10 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Foreign Relations: December 7, business meeting to consider S. 3386, to prevent, treat, and cure tuberculosis globally, S. 4824, to provide for proper oversight of North Korea policy, S. 4064, to facilitate the development of a whole-of-government strategy for nuclear cooperation and nuclear exports, S. 4509, to provide for security in the Black Sea region, S. 4996, to amend the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 to modify the establishment of a coordinator for detained ISIS members and relevant displaced populations in Syria, S. 4955, to amend certain authorities relating to human rights violations and abuses in Ukraine, S. Con. Res. 47, commending the bravery, courage, and resolve of the women and men of Iran demonstrating in more than 80 cities and risking their safety to speak out against the Iranian regime's human rights abuses, S. Con. Res. 16, commemorating the 30th anniversary of Operation Provide Comfort, S. Res. 713, recognizing Russian actions in Ukraine as a genocide, S. Res. 472, reaffirming the partnership between the United States and the Dominican Republic and advancing opportunities to deepen diplo-

matic, economic, and security cooperation between the two nations, S. Res. 730, remembering the 30th anniversary of the bombing of the Embassy of Israel in Buenos Aires on March 17, 1992, the 28th anniversary of the bombing of the Argentine-Israeli Mutual Association building in Buenos Aires on July 18, 1994, and committing to efforts to uphold justice for the victims of the attacks, S. Res. 322, reaffirming the alliance between the United States and Bulgaria, congratulating Bulgaria on its July 11, 2021 parliamentary elections, and calling for continued progress in Bulgaria towards combating corruption, respecting the freedom of the press, and protecting minority rights, S. Res. 650, recognizing May 28 as "World Hunger Day", that the 90th anniversary of the Ukrainian Famine of 1932–1933, known as the Holodomor, should serve as a reminder of repressive Soviet policies against the people of Ukraine, and that Vladimir Putin's illegal war against Ukraine has diminished Ukraine's agricultural output and threatens to exacerbate the problems of global hunger on World Hunger Day, H.R. 7240, to reauthorize the READ Act, the nominations of Joey R. Hood, of New Hampshire, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Tunisia, Lucy Tamlyn, of Rhode Island, to be Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Jessica Davis Ba, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire, and Rachna Sachdeva Korhonen, of New Jersey, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Mali, all of the Department of State, and other pending calendar business, 10 a.m., S-116, Capitol.

Committee on the Judiciary: December 8, business meeting to consider the nominations of DeAndrea Gist Benjamin, of South Carolina, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit, Robert Stewart Ballou, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Virginia, Todd E. Edelman, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia, Kymberly Kathryn Evanson, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington, Myong J. Joun, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts, and Colleen R. Lawless, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of Illinois, 9 a.m., SH-216.

Select Committee on Intelligence: December 6, to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

House Committees

Committee on Financial Services, December 7, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled "An Enduring Legacy: The Role of Financial Institutions in the Horrors of Slavery and the Need for Atone-ment, Part II", 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, December 7, Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, Central Asia, and Non-proliferation, hearing entitled "Understanding and Addressing Challenges in the Mekong Region", 10 a.m., 2200 Rayburn and Webex.

December 7, Subcommittee on International Development, International Organizations, and Global Corporate

Social Impact, hearing entitled “Modernizing International Development Assistance: Opportunities and Challenges”, 2 p.m., 2200 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on the Judiciary, December 7, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 8361, the “Preventing Suicide Through Voluntary Firearm Purchase Delay Act”; H.R. 4130, the “American Music Fairness Act”; H. Res. 1477, calling for the submission to the House of Representatives of certain information in the possession of the Attorney General regarding NICS Indices Self-Submission Forms; and H. Res. 1478, calling for the submission to the House of Representatives of certain information regarding the decision of the President of the United States to institute the “Ghost Gun” Rule, 2 p.m., 2141 Rayburn and Zoom.

December 8, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Undue Influence: ‘Operation Higher Court’ and Politicking at SCOTUS”, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, December 7, Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, hearing entitled “U.S. Coast Guard’s Leadership on Arctic Safety, Security, and Environmental Responsibility”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, December 7, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Fulfilling our Pact: Ensuring Effective Implementation of Toxic Exposure Legislation”, 10 a.m., HVC-210 and Zoom.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, December 7, Full Committee, markup on H. Res. 1466, of inquiry requesting the President to transmit certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to the investigation by the intelligence community into the origins of the COVID-19 virus; and H. Res. 1467, of inquiry requesting the President to transmit certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to the use of authorities, personnel, and capabilities of the intelligence community to conduct domestic activities unrelated to foreign intelligence, 9:30 a.m., HVC-304.

Select Committee on Economic Disparity and Fairness in Growth, December 7, Full Committee, business meeting on the Select Committee’s final report entitled *Bridging the Divide: Building an Economy that Works for All*, 1 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Joint Meetings

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: December 7, to hold hearings to examine the Civil Society Campaign to improve the lethality and survivability of the Ukrainian military, 2:30 p.m., SD-562.

December 8, Full Committee, to receive a briefing on demining Ukraine, 11 a.m., WEBEX.

December 8, Full Committee, to receive a briefing on Russia’s infrastructure terrorists, 3:30 p.m., WEBEX.

Résumé of Congressional Activity

SECOND SESSION OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS

The first table gives a comprehensive résumé of all legislative business transacted by the Senate and House.

The second table accounts for all nominations submitted to the Senate by the President for Senate confirmation.

DATA ON LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

January 3 through November 30, 2022

	<i>Senate</i>	<i>House</i>	<i>Total</i>
Days in session	161	146	..
Time in session	841 hrs, 52'	548 hrs, 60'	..
Congressional Record:			
Pages of proceedings	6,913	8,674	..
Extensions of Remarks .....	..	1,192	..
Public bills enacted into law	64	69	133
Private bills enacted into law .....	..	..	..
Bills in conference	1	1	..
Measures passed, total	463	502	965
Senate bills	117	76	..
House bills	80	327	..
Senate joint resolutions	6	..	..
House joint resolutions	1	2	..
Senate concurrent resolutions	8	5	..
House concurrent resolutions	5	11	..
Simple resolutions	246	81	..
Measures reported, total	*258	355	613
Senate bills	177	1	..
House bills	54	269	..
Senate joint resolutions	1	..	..
House joint resolutions .....	..	..	..
Senate concurrent resolutions	2	..	..
House concurrent resolutions .....	..	..	..
Simple resolutions	24	85	..
Special reports	4	11	..
Conference reports .....	..	..	..
Measures pending on calendar	351	137	..
Measures introduced, total	2,154	3,747	5,901
Bills	1,727	3,019	..
Joint resolutions	31	33	..
Concurrent resolutions	25	53	..
Simple resolutions	371	642	..
Quorum calls .....	..	1	..
Yea-and-nay votes	367	474	..
Recorded votes .....	..	16	..
Bills vetoed .....	..	..	..
Veto overridden .....	..	..	..

DISPOSITION OF EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS

January 3 through November 30, 2022

Civilian nominees, totaling 678 (including 181 nominees carried over from the First Session), disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	357
Unconfirmed	291
Withdrawn	30
Returned to White House	0
Other Civilian nominees, totaling 1,630 (including 291 nominees carried over from the First Session), disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	901
Unconfirmed	729
Air Force nominees, totaling 6,376 (including 5 nominees carried over from the First Session), disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	5,694
Unconfirmed	682
Army nominees, totaling 8,224 (including 1,992 nominees carried over from the First Session), disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	6,132
Unconfirmed	2,092
Navy nominees, totaling 4,523 (including 1 nominee carried over from the First Session), disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	4,521
Unconfirmed	1
Withdrawn	1
Marine Corps nominees, totaling 439 (including 321 nominees carried over from the First Session), disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	436
Unconfirmed	3
Space Force nominees, totaling 472 (including 2 nominees carried over from the First Session), disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	471
Unconfirmed	1
<i>Summary</i>	
Total nominees carried over from the First Session	2,793
Total nominees received this Session	19,549
Total confirmed	18,512
Total unconfirmed	3,799
Total withdrawn	31
Total returned to the White House	0

*These figures include all measures reported, even if there was no accompanying report. A total of 162 written reports have been filed in the Senate, 366 reports have been filed in the House.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Tuesday, December 6

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

9 a.m., Tuesday, December 6

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Frances Kay Behm, of Michigan, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at 12 noon. Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Kelley Brisbon Hodge, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania at 2:20 p.m. If cloture is invoked on either of the nominations, Senate will vote on confirmation thereon at 4:30 p.m.

(Senate will recess following the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Frances Kay Behm, until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: To be announced.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

Bergman, Jack, Mich., E1216
Bustos, Cheri, Ill., E1215
Cuellar, Henry, Tex., E1215

Davids, Sharice, Kans., E1214
Hartzler, Vicky, Mo., E1215
Hern, Kevin, Okla., E1216
Jackson Lee, Sheila, Tex., E1213
Luetkemeyer, Blaine, Mo., E1214

Schiff, Adam B., Calif., E1216
Speier, Jackie, Calif., E1213, E1214, E1217
Tonko, Paul, N.Y., E1215
Wilson, Joe, S.C., E1214, E1215, E1216



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